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THE NEW REFORM BILL QUESTION.

AT this stage of affairs, it may be as well to inquire what are the most pressing tasks demanded from our Parliament, and whether, among these, we ought to place a new Reform Bill. This is a question which demands an article to itself—though we see no reason why the mere mention of the subject should excite that pique and acrimony which some people seem to think as natural to it as burning brandy to Christmas pudding. Those whose profession it is to discover topics for agitation may well be hot about it, indeed; but the great wide public, which does not make mere politics the whole business of life, is by no means in the same position. There can be no reason, now, why a new Reform Bill, and the most suitable time for it, should not be as placid a topic as that of the moon's rotation. It is a question of the symmetry of the Constitution—unquestionably the Constitution ought to be as symmetrical as we can make it; but the nation is not bound to give that consideration the preference over every other, if good reason can be shown for doing some other things first.

The case was otherwise in 1830-32. Then, the country was suddenly awakened to a batch of constitutional abuses—the accumulation of centuries; and neither peace nor confidence was to be expected while these remained. Great statesmen had been well aware of their existence, and had contemplated their removal, years before; but the opportunity did not come. The nation—long solely occupied with the great French war—had not been in the habit of directing its attention that way. When it did, at last, the period (both abroad and at home) was one of great excitement. Accordingly, the Reform Bill was in its way a revolution—not one of the Continental pattern—but still a revolution; and, as was natural, it did its great work sweepingly and its minor work carelessly. It changed the face of the country; but it left a batch of the little boroughs against which it was levelled; it did not do justice always to the relative importance and population of places, in bestowing representation; and it did not fix any perfect principle which should determine the right of suffrage. It was English in its faults, as in its merits; for nobody maintains that anything English was ever perfect, or entirely shapely, though in working we have turned out a thing or two not easily to be matched!

Well, that such a bill should be “final” was of course absurd to expect. It suited the Whig lords to profess as much; for they had headed the movement (though they did not originate it), and had turned it to good party account. But, once passed, the Reform Bill was as fair a subject for improvement as anything else—the Poor Law, or the Army, or St. Paul’s Cathedral. We know no principle

on which any man who in any way has approved the Reform Bill, can establish the right of finality. If it be right for a ten-pounder to vote, and the changes of time make the five-pounder riper for the privilege, it is impossible to keep him out, without tyranny. The precedent once laid down, that suffrage is to be conferred as a right, according to social convenience, a new crop of sound claimants must come up every year. The changes of property and the spread of education must as surely produce new men with a right to vote, as time produces additions to the population. It is now a matter (as everything else is) of national and political convenience. The principle of the Reform Bill is as unshakable as that of the Act of Settlement.

No wonder, then, that new Reform Bills should from time to time make their appearance. In this journal we have occasionally dwelt on the anomalies of the existing system. Why should the shopkeeper determine (as is virtually the case) the choice of the town, to the exclusion of the intelligent mechanic—often a man of better cultivation, and with this stake in the cause of order, that without order he can get no work? Why should Caine and Tavistock be as powerful in the Commons as two important towns? Why should direct intimidation be unchecked by law? These are each abuses, which, when we are about mending the Constitution, we must infallibly take into the most serious consideration.

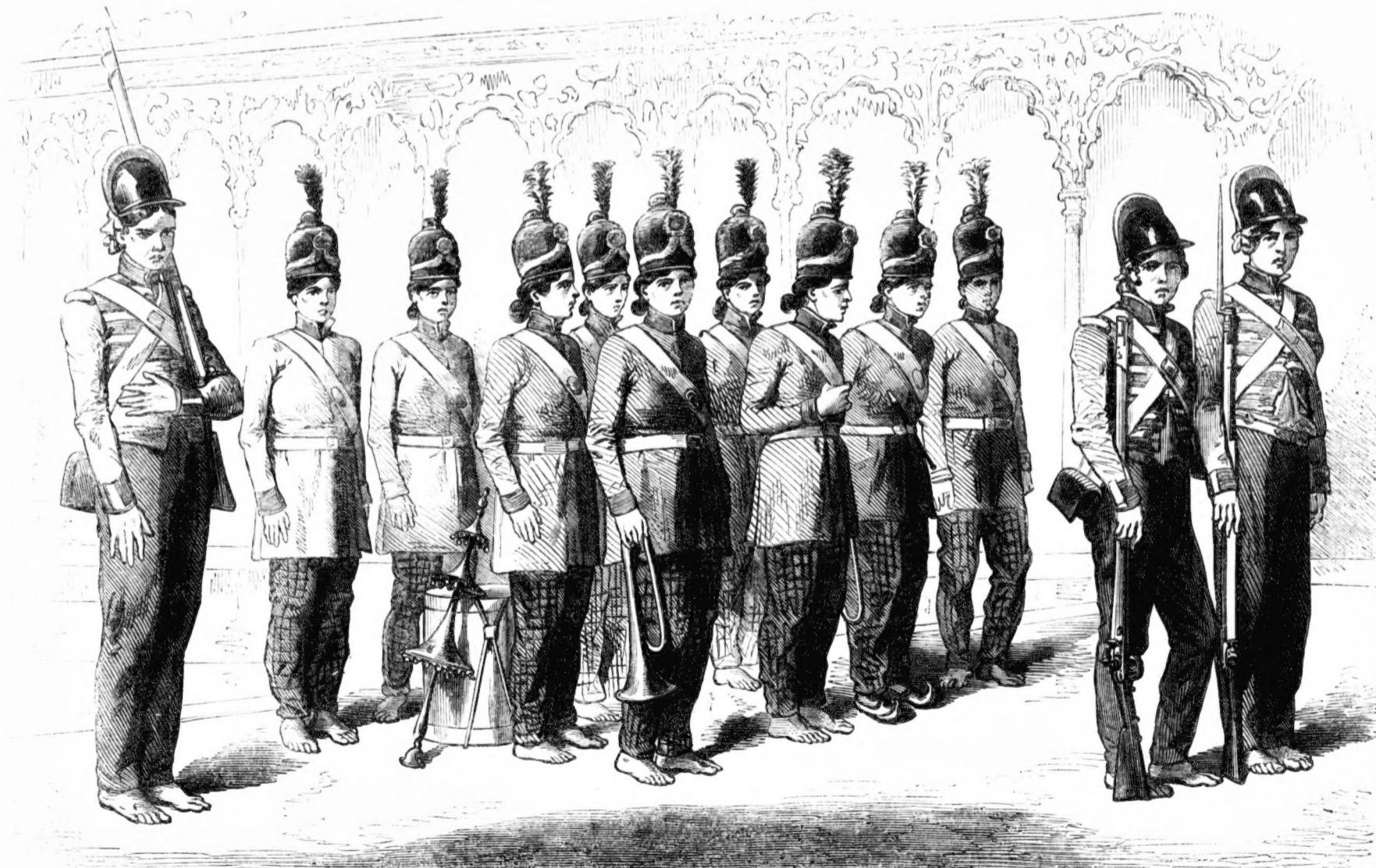
Accordingly, facts like these occupy the attention of many people, to the exclusion (almost) of all others. It is not easy to get up the same excitement about them that once existed, because the people now see that such changes alone as “political men proper” wish for will not meet all the requirements of the day. If trade be out of sorts, there will be hunger in New York as infallibly as in London—misery at Preston as certainly now as if it were still under the sole political control of the Stanleys. Perhaps, too, there is a little dissatisfaction with the way in which the new voters have used their powers. Carlyle and other men of equal mark observe that the Reform Bill gives us no higher or finer members—no better breed of public men—than we had before. Thoughts like these damp the minds of the people, and indispose them to get excited on the subject. Here we have an element which ought to enter into the present question; for, if it would be foolish to delay a new Reform till the desire for it had been inflamed into frenzy, so a certain lively and universal interest—a genial warmth—about a subject, is necessary to its being treated in a worthy national manner. It would not be up to our traditions to tinker our Constitution in cold blood, and in a mechanical manner. Nobody launches a ship without a bottle of wine and three

cheers; and we confess we should like to see a new H.M.S. England set off with some degree of heartiness and enthusiasm.

Now, do these exist in the country just now, are they likely to be awakened, about a new Reform Bill? If so, let them come out and show themselves. We want to strike, but we cannot, unless the iron is hot. But, since we have mentioned irons, what other ones (to vary the metaphor) have we in the fire?

The first Parliamentary question is the money one. The Bank Charter Act has to be thoroughly discussed, and it involves the whole currency question, itself connected with Free Trade, banking, and our whole commercial system. This subject is not the less important because it is not lively; and if dulness is to be an objection, a Reform debate in our days we fear will not be what it was in those of Brougham, Grey, Lambton, Croker, and Wetherall. But, supposing the money question cut short, referred to a new committee, and so forth, we feel certain that this cannot be the fate of the great question of our relation to British India. It is not now as it was when Disraeli made his spring speech. There can be no reason for avoiding discussion. We are in for a war which must end in our showing that we can put down every bayonet that a black man can raise against us in Hindostan. We have sent out our army. Delhi has fallen. And, though there must be local inquiries into the origin of the mutiny, which will go on independent of Parliamentary debates, still there are things that Parliament must do in the matter. It must decide how far Government has proved equal to the crisis at home and abroad. It must discuss the question of the campaign, and of the money which the campaign requires; involving everything relating to the Company’s finance, and so the point how far the country is to recognise the Company’s rule for the future. Surely these are exhausting and immense inquiries, and will leave little time for anything of corresponding magnitude. But, then, there is a very important matter on which it is clear that we must have explanations: we mean the relation of the Principalities to the Porte, and that of France to England in consequence of it. Then, there is all the ordinary business, in addition, and there are the usual social questions which from year to year turn up (with so little practical result, unhappily); and we know that last session without a Reform Bill was one of the most fatiguing ever known.

We leave it free to ourselves to modify this opinion, if circumstances should prove more favourable than they look at present; but it is our opinion, just now, that the Reform Bill can afford to “stand over.” There is an obvious disposition to make a cat’s paw of this question. Some bring it forward in hopes that it will withdraw at-



AMAZONS OF HYDERABAD, GUARD OF THE ROYAL HAREM.—(FROM A SKETCH BY PRINCE SOLTYKOFF.)

tention from the delinquencies of the Indian Government, content that it should never pass, provided it stops other discussions. Some, though they do not desire it, insist on it, in hopes that it may put the Government in difficulties. The Government themselves would probably like to escape so troublesome and controversial a business. We are not conscious of a factious interest in the matter, and we write, not to a party, but to the nation; but it does appear to us to be the national interest that this measure should come forward at some time when it will be done more justice to, than it can hope for at present.

THE HYDERABAD REGIMENT OF AMAZONS.

The engraving on the previous page is from a sketch by Prince Soltykoff, and represents the Amazonians who guard the harem within the palace at Hyderabad. "On visiting the private gardens of the palace of the Nizam," says the Prince, "we were received with military honours by these young female soldiers. The extreme youth and delicate appearance of these interesting warriors at once attracted attention. They wore red cloth hats trimmed with gold lace, and mounted with a green-coloured plume; red tunics and green trousers. Their long black hair was twisted into a knot, which hung down over the collar of their tunics. They were regularly armed with a musket with bayonet fixed; and such was their martial appearance, that but for their long hair and the fulness of their bosoms, I should not have recognised their sex. From the Prime Minister of the Nizam I obtained permission to make a sketch of these Amazons, and he was good enough to summon a detachment of them to one of the inner courts of the palace, that I might make my drawing without interruption."

Hyderabad is a city of some extent, being upwards of four miles in length by three miles in width. The streets are narrow, and in general are irregularly laid out. The principal buildings are the Nizam's palace, the "four minarets," and numerous other mosques. The whole city is surrounded by a stone wall about forty feet high and ten feet thick. Trees are planted in almost every street—especially round the mosques—and give the city a very cheerful appearance.

Foreign Intelligence

FRANCE.

THE Emperor and Empress arrived at the Tuilleries from Compiègne on Sunday afternoon.

Of the seven returns by the Republican party to the Legislative Body at the late elections, it seems that a new election will have to be resorted to in four instances. General Cavaignac is dead, and MM. Carnot and Goudechaux of Paris, and M. Hénon of Lyons, will refuse to take the oath.

M. Dupin has been appointed Procureur-Imperial in the Court of Cassation. M. Dupin was formerly President of the National Assembly. He was also one of the most notable adherents of the Orleanist party, and his acceptance of office under the Empire has caused some sensation in Paris.

The Conference of Paris will not be held till January, we are now told.

The text of a convention between France and Denmark with reference to the Sound dues and the tolls levied in the Belt has been published. France is to pay an indemnity to the Danish Exchequer of two millions two hundred and nineteen rixdollars, in forty half-yearly instalments.

It is said that the French Government have determined to put an end to the disgraceful bickerings which daily take place at Constantinople between M. Thouvenel and Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, and that despatches which have just left for the East, are calculated to produce a change in the attitude of these diplomats towards each other.

SPAIN.

THE recently-discovered conspiracy at Barcelona is of less importance than at first supposed—the persons implicated in it being of no political note, and the ramifications insignificant.

Extensive reforms and important savings in the War Department are being projected by the new Ministry.

The accouchement of the Queen was daily expected at our last advices.

AUSTRIA.

THE reported reduction of the Austrian army has been contradicted by several German papers; but a Vienna telegram, of November 18, states that the reduction has been officially sanctioned; and the "Cologne Gazette" of Nov. 18 says:—"The Emperor ordered the reduction of the army in an autograph letter, dated October 27, addressed to the Archduke William, who is charged with the execution of this important measure. It is certain that all the central divisions of infantry will be suppressed, and that considerable reductions will be made in the cavalry and artillery. It is not yet known whether the depot battalions will be reduced."

Commerce is still greatly distressed in Austria. The prices of raw produce decline daily, and money is so scarce that manufactured goods find but few wholesale purchasers.

A Vienna letter says:—"It has been agreed that the three Cabinets of Vienna, Constantinople, and London shall address notes to the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, in which they will, by common accord, demand the free navigation of the Black Sea, as well as communication with all the ports on its coasts."

PRUSSIA.

M. MANTEUFFEL has issued a circular on the Principalities question to the representatives of Prussia at foreign Courts. He says, in reference to the late note of Ali Pacha:—

"This new declaration of the Porte is not of a nature to make the King's Government deviate from the course which it has hitherto pursued during all the phases which the affair of the Principalities has gone through. It will await the meeting of the Congress of Paris, and the expression of their wishes by the Divans, before it pronounces its opinion."

"The Turkish censure appears to be written under the impression of extreme disgust as regards the Divans. It is this point which I mainly regret, deeming, as I do, to strengthen the moral tie which binds the population of the Danubian Provinces to the Government of the Sultan; yet I cannot help looking upon the Divans now existent as the legally convoked organs of the country, and consequently their right to complete the task imposed upon them by the Treaty of Paris. The information I have received leaves no apprehension that these assemblies will misinterpret their interests or the duty they owe to respect the suzerainty rights of the Porte."

"However that may be, it seems to us that the Porte can do no less than aid in securing a happy result to the deliberations of the Divans; if she wishes to quit her negative position, and take the initiative, no one will deny her suzerain power to express herself explicitly on the reforms desirable and admissible in her point of view. This has made us remark with satisfaction the passage in the despatch of Ali Pacha, which discusses the assimilation of administrative regulation; and we hope that the Ottoman Ministry will, in this respect, enter into the most explicit and complete explanations."

A commercial treaty between Great Britain and Prussia as regards the Ionian Islands in behalf of the Zollverein, by which the ships and subjects of the Zollverein States are placed on a footing of reciprocity with those of England, has been signed at Berlin by Baron Manteuffel and Lord Bloomfield.

RUSSIA.

RUSSIA has prohibited the export of silver, both on her European and Asiatic frontiers, a measure which, it is hoped, will have a beneficial effect throughout Europe. For many months past there has been a constant demand for silver for Russia, to meet which large supplies of French, Belgian, and other silver coin were continually arriving at Hamburg, and these were at once melted into ingots, and forwarded without delay to Russia, from whence they found their way through Kiechta to China, where the native merchants have for some time refused to accept any other returns for their produce. Previous to the late war between the Western Powers and Russia it was customary to barter cottons, woollens, and other goods for teas, silks, &c.; but as these could not be furnished in sufficient quantities when, on account of the blockade, there was no importation either of manufactures or raw materials into Russia which they could give in exchange, specie payments were introduced, and the effect of this alteration has to a certain extent been felt in all the money markets in Europe.

When exportation is prohibited, a check is at once given to importation also; and as the silver which has been taken off by Russia in such large quantities will no longer be required, the supplies for other quarters will consequently become more abundant.

At length we hear that the financial crisis which now weighs upon Europe has had a disastrous influence on Russia. Gold has become extremely scarce. "For notes of 100 roubles the discount office gives only five roubles in specie, and yet it is beset every day with crowds of persons who wish to get gold for their paper. The bankers are charging 15 per cent. for discounts."

DENMARK AND SWEDEN.

BARON SCHEEL PLESSEN, the Danish Minister at the Court of Stockholm, has arrived at Copenhagen. He is said to be charged with a confidential offer from the Prince Regent of Sweden and Norway, to conclude a defensive and offensive alliance between the Scandinavian kingdoms.

The Second Chamber of Denmark has adopted a bill to ensure liberty to trade and manufactures, and has agreed to the proposition of the Government fixing the 1st of January next as the time for its coming into operation.

ITALY.

THE Piedmontese Ministry have added forty-five votes to its majority by the recent elections. Garibaldi was beaten at the poll in his native city of Genoa.

Count Cavour has pronounced against the forced currency of bank notes.

Miss White has been set at liberty; but the Piedmontese Government has notified to the British consul at Genoa that she must quit the country.

It is believed the trial of the prisoners of Sipri will not take place until January. The police say that one of the charges against the two British engineers now in prison is their having been found in possession of a letter from Miss White. The detention of these men is beginning to excite great indignation in England; and Lord Palmerston's attention will certainly be directed to it in an urgent manner before January arrives. It is said that our acting consul at Naples was directed to make a formal application to see his imprisoned countrymen, and that the demand was as formally refused.

The trial of the men charged with the murder of the late Mr. Blandford was brought to a conclusion on November 13. The judges condemned Francesco Marino to thirteen years in irons, and Pasquale di Leva to nineteen years.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

M. THOUVENEL's relations with the Porte seem to be ameliorated; and we are informed that the French Ambassador now shows himself more conciliatory on the question of the Principalities.

Great agitation prevails in the Principalities. The Ottoman Government has sent a strong force to Silistra, with an eye to these disturbances.

The monetary disturbance which has so largely affected Europe and America has extended to Turkey. Provisions have reached a price unprecedented. Extraordinary purchases of arms, and especially of revolvers, are being made by the people, and it is clear that the Musulmans are very much alarmed about the future of the Empire.

Prince Gazarin, the Governor-General of Koutais and Mingrelia, has been assassinated by Dodeck Kulan, one of the petty sovereigns of Mingrelia. We have yet heard no excuse for the assassination.

AMERICA.

COMMERCIAL affairs still exhibit symptoms of improvement; but the "hunger demonstrations" which have broken out in several cities of the Union occasion much uneasiness. At New York precautions have been taken against any violent outbreak, by posting detachments of soldiers in various parts of the city.

General Walker has informed General Cass that he has not the slightest idea of violating the neutrality laws of the United States. He has merely enrolled 2,500 men in the Southern States as emigrants to Nicaragua, nothing more. The General was arrested at New Orleans on the 11th, and held to bail. We are not informed of the nature of the charge against him.

It is reported that a body of 500 United States troops were destroyed by Indians, while on their way to Utah. No military operations are likely to be opened against the saints this winter. The United States forces are insufficient, it seems. Moreover, a military officer sent across the Rocky Mountains to report on the state of affairs, found the Mormons bent on resistance, and, as the only road into their valley from the Missouri country is a deep and rugged pass fifty miles long, he was of opinion that they could resist great odds without much difficulty.

The Washington correspondent of the "New York Herald" (who is generally well informed), says:—"Mr. Mason has sent to the President his resignation as Minister to France, to take effect from the 1st of January next. The President, I understand, will recommend a total abrogation of all entangling treaty stipulations touching Central America, including the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty. He thinks this the quickest and surest mode of ridding ourselves of all embarrassments on the question. Every nation will then act independently on its own policy. Such is the general understanding among the diplomatic corps here. I re-affirm, upon the highest authority, that Sir William Gore Ouseley has no official connection whatever with the English Legation here. It is not certain that he will even visit Washington."

REVOLUTION IN MEXICO.

THE new constitution in Mexico has been suspended, and Comonfort declared dictator. Campeachy has surrendered to the Government forces. The whole of Yucatan is reported to be up in arms.

TERrible EXPLOSION AT MAYENCE.

THE powder-magazine of the Federal fortress of Mayence, on the Rhine, blew up on the afternoon of the 18th inst. About thirty people are known to have been killed, and four hundred wounded. Fifty-seven houses were completely destroyed, and there is scarcely an edifice in the town that has escaped damage. The place where stood the tower in which the magazine was stored is now a large hole merely; all the masonry work, even to the foundations, being scattered in all directions and to an immense distance. The office of the "Journal de Mayence," which was at least a quarter of a league from the spot, was destroyed by a large mass of masonry falling through the roof to the basement. The loss is estimated at 2,000,000 of florins, and it is said that the Municipality will make an application to the Diet for an indemnity. Within fifty yards of the magazine was a subterranean chamber containing 600 loaded shells. The door of this chamber was burst by the explosion, but happily the bombs did not ignite. Had they done so, the whole town would have been in flames. By order of the Emperor of Austria, subscriptions have been commenced for the sufferers by the explosion. The Emperor has given 200 florins.

SLAVERY EMANCIPATION IN THE DUTCH DEPENDENCIES.—It seems that Holland is at last resolved to follow the example of her neighbours in abolishing slavery in her colonies in the West Indies. We read that the Government are preparing the inhabitants for the emancipation of slaves in Curacao, Bonaire, Aruba, St. Eustatius, and Saba. While, however, Holland is the last nation in Europe to adopt this measure, she will be the only one that will pay a fair equivalent to the slaveholder for his slave, as we hear she proposes to do.

Russia and China.—A St. Petersburg letter says:—"According to the latest intelligence, the relations between Russia and China have taken a hostile turn. At all events the Court of Pekin has refused to receive the Russian Ambassador. It is evident that the generally hostile attitude of the Chinese Government towards foreigners has become still more so since the suspension of military operations against it in consequence of the rebellion in India. The interior troubles of the country seem to be appeased, and the Chinese Government now flatters itself that it is able to make head against Europe. Since China shuts her ears to all peaceful negotiation, we shall at last be compelled to adopt the most energetic measures. There is one important circumstance which we must always keep in mind, viz., that Russia and China are close neighbours along a great extent of common frontier, and that our new establishments on the Amur river must be protected."

A FEMALE CHILD, which was picked up by some of our seamen on the banks of the river, near Nankin, has been christened "Victoria Nankin."

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

LUCNOW REINFORCED AND PROVISIONED.

A TELEGRAPHIC message, received at the Foreign Office on Wednesday, informs us that Havelock was in the Residency at Lucknow, with fifteen hundred men. A thousand more, with sick and wounded, were at Alumbar, distant three miles. Communication between the two places was difficult. The enemy were in great force, and very strong in artillery. A convoy of provisions from Cawnpore arrived at Lucknow shortly after its relief, escorted by 250 men. They got in unmolested, in consequence of the sepoys being busily engaged entrenching themselves.

General Outram had urgently applied for large supplies and reinforcements to be organised at Alumbar, about four miles from the Residency, in preference to Cawnpore. The communication between Cawnpore and Alumbar was quite open, though not between the latter place and the Residency, in which neighbourhood the whole rebel force was concentrated.

Reinforcements were being sent up with all speed from Cawnpore. On the 23rd of October, Lucknow was reinforced by her Majesty's 53rd and 93rd Regiments; and it was expected that by the 30th Greathed's column—then on the march—would arrive from Delhi, and raise Havelock's army to 7,000 men. The garrison could at any time cut their way out, but the General did not wish to expose the women and children to any further danger.

Three or four thousand Delhi fugitives were attacked near Bhitoor by Colonel Nelson, with a small force from Cawnpore, on the 18th of October, and driven out of the place, which was strong. Nana Sahib is said to be near Bhitoor again. Nothing was known at Calcutta of his reported capture by the Belooch battalion. The report that Maan Singh, heretofore our friend, had turned against us since the storming of Delhi was announced, is confirmed.

THE DELHI FUGITIVES—THEIR DEFEAT AT AGRA.

Colonel Greathed's column, consisting of her Majesty's 8th Foot and 9th Lancers, two troops Horse Artillery, one line 4th field battery, five 12-inch mortars, two companies of Punjab Sappers, 2nd and 4th Punjab Infantry, 125 detachment of Punjab Cavalry, and 200 Hodson's Horse, about 3,000 in all, in pursuit of Delhi fugitives, fell in with the enemy at Bolandshahur, and after two hours' fighting routed them, with heavy loss of men, two guns, and ammunition. Our loss was fifty killed and wounded.

Balandshahur was afterwards taken and blown up. Greathed's force again fought them successfully at Allyghur, on the 5th of October; 400 of the enemy were killed, and two guns were taken.

The column reached Agra on the 14th. The enemy made a sudden and unexpected attack on cantonments; were repulsed, utterly dispersed, and the pursuit continued up to the Kharee. Great numbers of the enemy were killed, amounting to a thousand men; all the guns, forty-three in number, were taken. Our men came in for plenty of plunder. The camp equipment, and five lacs of treasure, were captured. There was small loss on our side.

A column under Brigadier Showers, 1,200 men and four guns, had marched [through?] Bullulghur in pursuit of rebels.

Two more of the King's sons were sentenced to be shot, and execution was to take place on the 13th of October. A commission had been issued for the trial of the King himself: it was uncertain whether any promise of his life had been made.

Important papers had been found in the Palace at Delhi. There was nothing, however, of a date anterior to the outbreak at Meerut.

Sir J. Lawrence superintends the administration of the Delhi territory.

The fall of Delhi had a marked effect in the Meerut and contiguous districts.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Europeans at Saugor are still in the fort; relief is urgently required.

Part of the 32nd (Bengal?) Native Infantry has mutinied at Deesa, and murdered two of their officers; and the Maharajah of Oralius is reported to have been murdered by his own people.

The Bheels are still in rebellion at Nassick, on the frontiers of Kadkash. At present all is quiet in Scinde, Bombay, Madras, and the Nizam's dominions.

According to another report, there are rumours of threatening disturbances at Hyderabad: we do not know whether this means Hyderabad in Scinde, or Hyderabad in the Deccan.

Revenue has been brought in very rapidly, and loyalty was the order of the day.

Fifteen vessels have reached various ports of our Indian possessions, carrying more than 5,000 troops. Cavalry and transport animals were much wanted everywhere. Two large ships in tow of steamers had been sent to Rangoon for elephants.

BLOWING UP THE CASHMERE GATE AT DELHI.

The following is an extract of a report, dated Sept. 17, from Colonel Baird Smith to Major-General Wilson:—

"The gallantry with which the explosion party under Lieutenants Home and Salkeld, performed the desperate duty of blowing up the Cashmere Gate, in broad daylight, will, I feel sure, be held to justify me in making special mention of it. The party was composed, in addition to the two officers named, of the following.—Sergeants John Smith and A. B. Carmichael, and Corporal Burgess, Sappers and Miners; Bugler Hawthorne, her Majesty's 52nd, fourteen native sappers and miners, ten Punjab ditto, musters covered by the fire of her Majesty's 60th Rifles. The party advanced at the double towards the Cashmere Gate—Lieutenant Home, with Sergeants Smith and Carmichael, and Havildar Mahor, all the sappers leading and carrying the powder bags, followed by Lieutenant Salkeld, Corporal Burgess, and a portion of the remainder of the party. The advanced party reached the gateway unhurt, and found that part of the drawbridge had been destroyed; but passing across the precarious footway supplied by the remaining beams, they proceeded to lodge their powder bags against the gate. The wicket was open, and through it the enemy kept up a heavy fire upon them. Sergeant Carmichael was killed while laying his powder bag, Havildar Mahor being at the same time wounded. The powder being laid, the advanced party slipped down into the ditch to allow the firing party, under Lieutenant Salkeld, to perform its duty. While endeavouring to fire the charge, Lieutenant Salkeld was shot through the arm and leg, and handed over the slow match to Corporal Burgess, who fell mortally wounded just as he had successfully accomplished the onerous duty. Havildar Tilluh Sing, of the Sikhs, was wounded, and Ramoll Sepoy, of the same corps, was killed during this part of the operation. The demolition being most successful, Lieutenant Home, happily not wounded, caused the bugler to sound the regimental call of the 52nd, as the signal for the advancing column. Fearing that amid the noise of the assault the sounds might not be heard, he had the call repeated three times, when the troops advanced and carried the gateway with complete success. I feel certain that a simple statement of this devoted and glorious deed will suffice to stamp it as one of the noblest on record in military history."

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The following has been communicated to the "Poonah Observer":—

"By recent letters received from Brigadier Havelock's force, it appears that on the arrival of the detachment of the 7th Highlanders at that place of skulls, Cawnpore, after the massacre of our countrymen, women, and children, they by some means or other found the remains of one of General Wheeler's daughters. The sight was horrible, and aroused them to that pitch, that, gathering around, they removed the hair from off the poor girl's head, a portion of which was carefully selected and sent home to her surviving friends. The remainder they equally divided amongst themselves; and on each man receiving his carefully selected portion, they all quietly and very patiently applied their selves to the tedious task of counting out the number of hairs contained in each individual's lot; and when this task was accomplished, they one and all swore most solemnly that for as many hairs as they held in their fingers, so many of the cruel and treacherous mutineers should die by their hands!"

The Paris "Pays" says: "The English are not masters of the town of Lucknow, but only of the citadel, about two kilometers distant. This fortress has been reoccupied by General Outram, who succeeded, after a murderous struggle, in putting himself in communication with the besieged. He is now shut up within the walls of the place. General Havelock, who commands the second column, is encamped outside the citadel, on an eminence called Mount Hamak. He is held in check by the assurgent army

20,000 strong, which is master of the town of Lucknow. In this very serious situation, the English find themselves opposed to a vastly superior force, which intercepts their communications with Cawnpore, the base of their operations."

The Government has issued a proclamation in several languages, offering a reward of 50,000 rupees for the apprehension of Sreemant Doondoo Pant Nena Sahib. His nephew has been safely lodged in Tannah jail for the present, and the Government are not without hopes of having the uncle yet in the same place.

GOSSIP FROM HONG KONG.

From an interesting letter written by the "Times" correspondent at Hong Kong, we take the following scraps of gossip and information:—

RUSSIANS AND AMERICANS IN CHINA.

The Russians have played the first card in the game which is now to come off here. On the 2nd inst. (Sept.) Count Putiatin, Vice-Admiral, Aide-de-Camp, General-Governor of Amoor, Minister Plenipotentiary and Ambassador Extraordinary from his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia to the Court of Pekin, landed at Shanghai in plain costume and from a little boat, accompanied by a suite as unpretending as their principal. He had left his steamer at Woosung to coal, and took up his residence with the American house of Russell and Co. The only visits he paid, except return visits of ceremony, were to Mr. Beale, an old friend, whose guest he had been when stationed here before the war, and to Mr. Hurd, the head of another of the principal American houses at this port. From these little facts some people draw conclusions as to a probable concurrence of Russian and American counsels in the forthcoming negotiations.

It seems to be thought here that the objects of the Russians extend no further than to convert their college at Pekin into a diplomatic establishment, and to obtain a participation in the privileges granted to nations "heretofore trading to Canton." With an Ambassador at Pekin they can work out the rest at their leisure. Meanwhile the oculum of all coercive measures is to be thrown upon the English and the French. We shall see presently how this will work. The Count will either go to Pekin, or he will be back here before the next mail leaves. If Russia gains time by this quick isolated step, she also risks. From the treatment she receives we may surely learn something that may be useful to us. The Russian officers have been most provokingly candid and circumspect as to their means of defence at Castree Bay and Petropavlovski, and as to their escapes. It would be easy to make an amusing letter out of these revelations. But cui bono? Let these unpleasant topics cease. Some Horace Walpole is no doubt telling the next age all about it.

EUROPE AT NINGPO.

Hamburg sends more ships up the Ningpo river than even England. Every petty nation that has a flag to lend or sit is represented either by its square-rigged ships or by its nondescript lorches. Sweden and Denmark, and Hamburg and Holland, and Spain and Portugal, are all Christian nations, all have traded, or say they have traded, to Canton, and all have flags under which honest men and scoundrels may equally claim treaty rights. But these nations have no consuls and no men of war to keep the peace. If an English, an American, or a French ship comes to Ningpo, she must pay her tonnage dues and get her grand chop before she can clear out. If an armed Hamburg ship comes up the river she does as she pleases—that is to say, she pays no tonnage dues, to the obvious disadvantage of the ships of the great Powers. The other day five Europeans boarded a Chinese junk in that river, and under pretence of being officers entitled to see her papers, plundered her of all the silver she had on board. Complaint was made. One of the pirates was found to be an English subject—one Murphy—he was tried before the Consul and sentenced to two years' imprisonment. Several of the others were Europeans, subjects of nations represented by no authorities here; there was no power to touch them. This is a difficulty which must be met if we would not "open up China" to all the outlaws of Europe; but it is not insurmountable.

A BRITISH MARAUDER BITTERLY PUNISHED.

The case of Tobin (an Irishman), who went up the country to collect "convoys," or, in plain English to rob with violence, is another embarrassment. The man is dead, and the circumstances are, it appears, worse than they were first reported. When he had, either in anger or by mischance, shot one of his Chinese comrades, the villagers seized him, and lashed his arms and legs to a bamboo pole, passed up his back. The poor wretch's torments must have been terrible. He could not lie, he could not sit; the thongs were cutting through his flesh, and his wounds were festering in the sun. A little boiled rice was daily put into his mouth, and that was all. Six days he endured this. On the seventh he was taken to Dr. Parker's hospital, his wrists, and legs, and back, all covered with sloughing sores. He had been tortured to death, and he died.

MILITARY PROSPECTS.

I believe that John Bull will be utterly disappointed of anything like a fight. Ningpo itself is defended along the whole extent of its walls by two guns, whose explosion would be terrific, and cause immediate destruction to all who should approach—to fire them. It is said that there are 1,000 soldiers in the city, and the assertion is very probable. But the Chinese, who invented everything, invented that system of purchase which is the ornament and safeguard of our military system. They carry out the principle further than we have yet done. In China a soldier receives a certain modicum of cash and rice, amounting perhaps to sixteen a-day, he attends parade now and then when called upon, and he works at his trade at all other times. This is an advantageous position, and the Mandarins take care he

THE FEVER AT LISBON.—The fever was still raging at Lisbon at the date of latest advices—about eighty persons died daily. Among those who have recently succumbed to the epidemic, is the Cardinal Patriarch, on account of whose death all public amusements were suspended for three days. Some of the passengers of the Royal Mail steam-ship Tyne, from Southampton to Madeira, have published a statement, cautioning persons proceeding to Madeira not to touch at Lisbon, as they will be quarantined for fifteen days at Funchal.

TELEGRAPHIC TREATY WITH AUSTRIA.—It was reported that the British Government had come to an agreement with Austria "to send all its telegrams by way of Ragusa to Alexandria, if the Imperial authorities will make a submarine telegraph between those two cities." Such a convention was on the point of being concluded, but her Majesty's Government afterwards resolved (very prudently) neither to bind its own hands nor those of its successors.

FATAL FIRE AT ST. PETERSBURG.—A fire broke out on the 9th in an immense lodging-house, occupied by 3,000 persons, kept by a Madame Souslou, at St. Petersburg. It raged for sixteen hours before it could be extinguished. Seven persons lost their lives, and a number of others only escaped with difficulty. A little girl, ten years of age, saved two children; the Emperor caused 100 silver roubles to be given to her.

IRELAND.

THE SADLER ESTATES.—A portion of the gigantic property accumulated by the late John Sadler has been put up for sale in the Encumbered Estates Court. This estate, which is situated in the county of Tipperary, yields a profit rental of about £1,700 a year. The property was divided into nineteen lots—five of which were withdrawn for the present, the others producing £58,950. The rental of the adjourned lots is estimated at £370 per annum. The estates of Mr. Vincent Scully were then put up; but, there being no biddings for several of the lots, the sale was adjourned at the instance of the solicitor for the official manager for winding up the affairs of the Tipperary Bank.

THE PROSECUTION OF THE MAYO PRIESTS.—A troop of the 1st Dragoon Guards was sent to Ballinrobe to aid the officials in the arrest of Father Conaway, which it was thought would be attended by rioting. Mr. Conway fearing that blood might be shed, at once started for Dublin, and appeared in person to answer the charge against him. On the peasantry at Athlone hearing of the purpose which the Dragoons had in view, they organised horse expresses from house to house, a distance of thirty miles, in order that they might communicate with the clergyman, who thereupon left for the capital.—The health of Father Ryan is said to be in a precarious condition.

STREET-PREACHING AT BELFAST.—Street-preaching has continued in Belfast, to the manifest danger of the public peace. A Mr. White preached to an attentive audience on the quay on Sunday week. But Mr. Matee boldly took up his station in the Roman Catholic quarter, held forth, and was only saved from rough treatment by the strenuous exertions of the police. The consequence was, that the whole of the constabulary was kept under arms all day.

AN IRISH ASSAULT.—Dr. Pepperell, proprietor of a private lunatic asylum, Bushy Park, eighteen miles from Limerick, has been waylaid at night by three armed men, who beat him and his groom till life seemed to be gone. Dr. Pepperell's three daughters were witnesses of the scene. A discharged keeper

DEPORTATION OF PAUPERS.—The Belfast journals bitterly complain of the number of Irish paupers now arriving on the quays of that town from England and Scotland. The "Belfast Mercury" says:—"The deportation of paupers from England and Scotland to Belfast still continues, and the probability is, the number of destitute creatures who are thus transmuted here will be considerably on the increase this winter. One man was sent here by the parochial authorities of Manchester, after having lived in Manchester for a period of twenty-five years, he was sent back to Liverpool. Fourteen of the poor people, though belonging to Dublin, were landed at Belfast, and here abandoned, without a farthing to support them. In one day ten destitute creatures arrived from Glasgow, having been deported from Edinburgh, and four out of the number were sent back to Glasgow. Of the four there was one man who had lived thirty-two years in Scotland, and the three others were women, and had lived twenty-four, forty-six, and fourteen years respectively, in that country."

DR. CULLEN AND THE PATRIOTIC FUND.—Dr. Cullen has replied to Lord St. Leonard's remonstrance against the arrears of the Dr. in regard to the distribution of the Patriotic Fund. Dr. Cullen wishes to know whether the public, "when called upon to contribute, were informed that a very large portion of the fund was to be devoted to the endowment of schools, in which the teaching is Protestant, or conducted on the principles of the union schools, and most dangerous to Catholic children. Yet a quarter of a million has been thus applied." Lord St. Leonard's assertion that "the contribution from Ireland amounted only to £60,000, the greater part of which, it cannot be doubted, was subscribed by Protestants, who for the most part constitute the rich of that country," is thus met:—"The allusion to Catholic poverty has, we think, been unwisely introduced. It recalls reminiscences which it were far better, my Lord, not to revive. If Catholics are poor, we are tempted to ask, in the words of an illustrious Irish poet—

"What made them Helots?" Gibbons, so urge, and brand,

Plauging with futile rage a faith devout."

The injustice of the laws and the action of the establishment have rendered that inferiority in point of wealth inevitable, with which we are often reproached. First came confiscation on a large scale, and legal penalties were afterwards monthly inflicted on our Catholic gentry for non-attendance at Protestant worship, and ceased to be levied only when all property had been wrested from their hands. Even now the country is enormously burdened to support an institution which, by its religious teaching, can in no wise indemnify the state or the people for the ample supplies which it receives." In conclusion, Dr. Cullen says—"I beg to state that many Catholics have assured me of their willingness to contribute to the Indian fund, if measures be adopted to protect the poor children of some Catholic noblemen and gentlemen to take part in the central committee in London and Calcutta, with the view of superintending the interests of those children, would remove all apprehensions and satisfy public anxiety."

MURDER.—Sullivan, a young farmer of Clonard, near Macroom, was beaten to death one night last week, while returning home from a fair where he had been drinking; his assailants, apparently, being some men with whom he had quarrelled in a public-house.

THE PROVINCES.

A LIFE FOR A KISS.—A young Irishman at Leeds has lost his life in endeavouring to kiss a young countrywoman of his. He seized the girl playfully round the waist; she resisted; and both rolled down some steps leading into a cellar. The girl was uppermost, and was not much hurt; but the man fell on his head, and was so much injured that he died.

MANSLAUGHTER BY A SCHOOLMASTER.—At Wedmore, a school-teacher (Indor) struck a little boy, son of a labouring man, so severely under the ear, because he could not pronounce h or c, that he died a day or two afterwards. A post mortem examination proved that the blow had been the cause of death, rupturing the carotid artery, and causing effusion of blood on the brain. The jury unanimously found a verdict of "Manslaughter" against Indor.

STRANGE DEATH OF AN ESCAPED PRISONER.—At Pangbourne a police constable endeavoured to arrest a sturdy-looking man, who after being pursued, persisted in begging from house to house. The man, who was an Irishman, resisted; and breaking away from the policeman's grasp, ran down to the river Thames (which flows close to the road), and plunged in. The constable shouted to two men on the opposite side of the river to secure the fugitive, who was swimming easily across; but suddenly, when within a few yards of the shore, he was seized with cramp—sank, and was drowned.

THE MURDER AT ASHOVER.—Two men who were seen in the neighbourhood of the spot where Mr. Simpson was murdered, at Ashover, have been apprehended. Upon one of the prisoners was found a dark lantern, and in a box at his lodgings some groceries were discovered. Whether these groceries are identified as those with which Mr. Simpson was returning from market we do not learn. An inquest has been held, at which the jury gave a verdict of "Wilful murder by some person or persons unknown."

MURDEROUS ATTACK ON A POLICEMAN.—As police-constable Thomas Carson was proceeding on the turnpike road near the village of Todwick, about seven miles from Rotherham, at one o'clock on Monday morning, he was shot at from behind a hedge, and was wounded in the right fore-arm. He drew his pistol and fired into the place whence the sound had proceeded, and then commenced a search, but without finding anyone. Becoming faint from loss of blood, he returned home, and was found on medical examination to have sustained very severe injury. Carson has been stationed on his present beat only about a month.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.—A new writ for East Kent is to be moved in Parliament on the 3rd of December. Mr. W. Deedes has issued an address to the electors.—Mr. George Ward Hunt, of Wadencroft, has issued an address to the electors of the northern division of the county of Northampton, seeking to succeed the late Mr. Stafford in the representation of that constituency. Mr. Hunt has twice sought to represent the town of Northampton by the aid of the conservative party, but failed. The name of Mr. Fitzpatrick Vernon, who is connected by marriage with the family of Earl Fitzwilliam, is spoken of as a possible opponent of the conservative candidate on the present occasion.

THE LIVERPOOL FINANCIAL REFORM ASSOCIATION.—The Liverpool Financial reformers believe they have discovered a nice little discrepancy of upwards of £5,000,000 in the Government accounts. It appears that this discrepancy exists in a late return of the expenditure for the army, navy, and ordnance departments, for the year ending March 31, 1856, and the official financial return, and that furnished on the motion of Mr. W. Williams. The former gives the total expenditure as £47,461,187 14s. 7d.—the two latter as, £52,817,698 18s. 1d. The highest return is the latest.

DETESTABLE CRUELTY.—Betsy Lynes, aged seventeen, was found dead in a shed situated on the Muston Road, near Bridlington. At the inquest, it was proved by Mary Ann Coxton, Matthew Hallam, and other neighbours, that the poor girl had lately returned from service, but that her parents had refused to take her in. By the kindness of these witnesses, she was housed and kept for three weeks, and at length made known to her parents that she had neither money nor food, beseeching them to give her shelter till she got a situation; but she was again refused. From that time till the body was discovered, she had been missed. On examination of the body, it was discovered that the cause of death was laudanum, the stomach containing nothing but that and the remains of partly-digested apples. A bottle containing a small quantity of laudanum was found at the back of the shed, with a broken cap. The jury found a verdict, "Found dead." The Coroner intimated that had the deceased been one year younger, a verdict of manslaughter would have been returned against her parents.

FATAL BOILER EXPLOSIONS.—A boiler at the cotton doubling mill of Mr. Kerr, Upper Ashley, near Huddersfield, exploded on Monday. Twelve persons were killed and many others seriously injured. The engine was a new one; it only commenced working on the Friday previous. It was stopped in the ordinary way dinner-hour on Monday, and should have again been put in motion at two o'clock, but some delay occurred, and as the machinery was not going, several of the mill hands assembled in the boiler-house, led there principally by the novelty of the circumstance, and partly to see what was the matter. The person in charge of the engine (Jesse Forth, who is among the dead) ordered some of the bystanders to put the engine in motion, while he "fired up." This was done, but the fly wheel had made only two or three revolutions when the boiler exploded and lay the place in ruins. Corpses were scattered here and there—some on the adjoining premises, some in the goit, or artificial dam, hard by; while others were buried beneath the rubbish, amidst those who had escaped death, but who were only less helpless than their more unfortunate companions.—The Yorkshire papers record a similar calamity. At a place called Lower Marthcup, about five miles from Skipton, some shafts have been sunk to form a tunnel in continuation of the conduit which supplies the Bradford works. At the top of one of these shafts an agricultural light-pressure engine was used to draw up the water; and the boiler of this engine exploded. A youth in charge of the engine was killed, as was also a man who was employed on the night shift, and who was watching the engine. He had an infant in his arms, who was killed with him. Several persons were greatly injured.

SPOILERS ON HIS TRAVELS.—James Spollen, who came to Liverpool last week, ostensibly for emigration purposes, called upon the head of the Liverpool police, and asked for their "assistance and co-operation" in opening a place where he could display a model of the premises where Mr. Little's murder took place, and where he might lecture upon the incidents of that terrible affair. The police superintendent, however, gave him a very cold reception, declining to grant him any special aid or protection; and he then quitted the office.

INQUEST ON THE BODY OF MR. AUGUSTUS STAFFORD, M.P.—The circumstances attendant upon the death of Mr. Stafford induced his friends to have a coroner's inquest. A post-mortem examination showed that Mr. Stafford had for some time been in a state of decaying health, with very feeble action of the heart, the most urgent symptoms arising from the existence of gall-stones. In a severe and painful attack, powerful remedies were needed to subdue fits of pain that might in themselves have proved fatal; and the use of strong opiates was followed by bleeding. In the night the bandage came off the arm, and Mr. Stafford bled for a long while before he awoke. He then rose and obtained assistance. But now the opiate, the effects of which had probably begun to subside, recovered a fatal influence over an exhausted frame. The closing scene, with men employed for twelve hours with razor-shrubs and wooden battens in beating the soles of the feet to prevent sleep, but fruitlessly, is one of the most painful ever related. The verdict of the inquest, however, pronounced the medical man, responsible for the bleeding and the opiates, free from blame.

MR. JAMES MOORE.—Dr. Peppell, proprietor of a private lunatic asylum, Bushy Park, eighteen miles from Limerick, has been waylaid at night by three armed men, who beat him and his groom till life seemed to be gone. Dr. Peppell's three daughters were witnesses of the scene. A discharged keeper

number of Irish paupers now arriving on the quays of that town from England and Scotland. The "Belfast Mercury" says:—"The deportation of paupers from England and Scotland to Belfast still continues, and the probability is, the number of destitute creatures who are thus transmuted here will be considerably on the increase this winter. One man was sent here by the parochial authorities of Manchester, after having lived in Manchester for a period of twenty-five years, he was sent back to Liverpool. Fourteen of the poor people, though belonging to Dublin, were landed at Belfast, and here abandoned, without a farthing to support them. In one day ten destitute creatures arrived from Glasgow, having been deported from Edinburgh, and four out of the number were sent back to Glasgow. Of the four there was one man who had lived thirty-two years in Scotland, and the three others were women, and had lived twenty-four, forty-six, and fourteen years respectively, in that country."

MR. SIDNEY HERBERT ON RECRUITING.

The Wiltshire Agricultural Association held its annual meeting last week. Mr. Sidney Herbert, who was present, made a happy use of the opportunity thus afforded to give some information respecting the pay of our soldiers, with a view of promoting the recruiting service. It is commonly supposed that the soldier gets only a shilling a day: he gets nearer two.

"In addition to his shilling, he is allowed one penny a day beer-money. For 13d. he receives one pound of bread and three-quarters of a pound of meat, which cost the Government 6d. Here the soldier has an advantage of 1s. 2d. a week. Again, his cooking is done, and he has extra bread, coffee, sugar, and vegetables, at cost price. Compare that with the labourer, who has to pay a large profit to the shopkeeper. This advantage cannot be set down at less than 7d. a week. Then he gets a coat, a pair of trousers, and a pair of boots every year, a shilling every two, and a greatcoat every three years. Put this at 1s. a week, or 52s. a year. Then he has lodgings, bedding, fuel, light, and the use of a library, which would be said to be cheap at 2d. a day. His medical attendance, at the lowest contract price, would be 2d. per week. There is a prospective pension of 10d. a day after twenty-one years' service; which, according to the Northampton tables, could not be purchased at less than 2d. a week. All this gives a total of 13s. 5d.; but it does not include contingent advantages, such as good-conduct pay, extra rations in hot climates, and rations to soldiers' wives. With our short servitude of ten years, a young man can hardly do better than serve from eighteen to twenty-eight. Mr. Herbert felt sure he would return home more capable of supporting himself than when he went out."

In the course of his speech, Mr. Herbert said he was proud of the vigour and calmness displayed by Lord Canning; and discredited the complaints made against him by a certain section in Calcutta, whose recommendations he would not adopt. Of General Havelock, Mr. Herbert said that his campaign "eclipsed everything."

SIR ROBERT PEEL ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

SIR ROBERT PEEL regaled his constituents with an off-hand rambling speech last week, at a dinner given in honour of the late Mayor. It was a critical and desultory essay upon the Indian mutiny, the conduct of the Government, the late speeches of Mr. Osborne, Lord Granville, and Lord Palmerston, the Indian finances, the promised Reform Bill, and the 78th Highlanders. Some of the points were brought out with force and raciness, if not with novelty:—

"What did Mr. Smith, of the Board of Control, say when in June he received information of the seizure of Delhi by the mutineers? He got up in the House of Commons—I hear him with my own ear—he got up and said, 'We have received a report of a mutiny in India; but it is nothing—it is one of those periodic émeutes which occasionally excite the natives of India.'"

To show the rapidity with which troops might have been sent across Egypt, Sir Robert stated that 460 men sent from Malta on the 25th of September would reach Calcutta in five weeks; while the time occupied in the passage round the Cape would be—for sailing vessels, 130 days; for steamers, from 75 to 85 days. Now, in the Mediterranean there was a fleet under the command of a man, to whom from the beginning he had always had an antipathy—he meant Admiral Lord Lyons—a fleet which kept roving about doing nothing. They read in the papers how Lord Lyons went here and went there, visited the Greek Consul and breakfasted with him, and went about seeing the beauty of the scenery in this place and that, and when those ships might have been carrying troops to India, instead of showing off this, the youngest man who ever wore the British uniform—a man who was showing himself off, instead of doing service to the British nation. When Parliament met, Sir Robert hoped it would consider the great expense of this fleet, which had been doing nothing but exhorting Lord Lyons.

Sir Robert expressed, in his own peculiar style, great confidence in Lord Palmerston.

THE BISHOP OF OXFORD ON THE INDIAN MUTINY.

The Bishop of Oxford has delivered at Reading a long lecture in support of foreign missions. With respect to India, he strongly denounced the sanctioning and maintenance by the British authority there of the native superstitions, affirming the true interpretation of the cause of England's recent disasters to be that "England has been false to England's God, and timid of avowing England's God."

THE ENGLISH ENGINEERS IMPRISONED AT NAPLES.

An enthusiastic public meeting was held in Newcastle-on-Tyne on Monday evening, to take steps to procure the liberation of the two English engineers who are imprisoned in the dungeons of Salerno, on a charge of being implicated in the recent conspiracy. The speakers indulged in some fiery language, and the following resolution was passed:—

"That it is the opinion of this meeting that the imprisonment of the two English Engineers, Messrs. Watt and Parks, by the Neapolitan Government, and the refusal of that Government to allow the English Consul at Naples or any of their friends to communicate with them, is an insult to the British nation, and requires the prompt and vigorous interposition of the British Government."

The following letter from the Foreign Office, on the part of Lord Clarendon, in answer to a memorial presented by Mr. Ridley, M.P., from the workmen of Messrs. Stephenson and Co., engine-builders, was read to the meeting:—

"Sir,—I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th inst., enclosing a memorial numerously signed by workmen in the employ of Messrs. R. Stephenson and Co., relative to the case of the engineer, Henry Watt; and I am directed to state to you, in reply to the memorialists, that Watt is amenable to the law of Naples, as it appears that he was taken prisoner, being at the time in company with other persons who were attempting to excite a revolution, and that the acting Consul at Naples, under instructions from this office, has retained the best lawyers to be had in Naples for his defence. Lord Clarendon has instructed the acting Consul to demand that he shall be allowed to see Watt, and that no unnecessary delay shall take place in proceeding with their trial."

TRADE IN THE PROVINCES.

The disturbances which broke out in Nottingham in consequence of the scarcity of employment have not been repeated. Temporary relief has been afforded to a great many families, and there is an arrangement that for the present able-bodied men shall be employed upon a new road. At the Nottingham Theatre, Mr. Waller, the "Queen's Jester," distributed 750 two pound loaves to the poor.

Nearly the whole of the silk manufacturers at Derby have closed their mills, and the few that are open are working short time. Several thousands of people, most of them females, have thus been thrown out of employment.—At Blackburn we hear of the closing of eleven mills. Others are working four days a week, and even in these many looms and spindles are idle. Since the year 1847 there have never been more factory hands out of employment than at the present moment. Other trades are in the same state of depression.—At Stockport nearly all the mills are working either three or four days a week, while the rest are stopped entirely.—At Bolton there is a marked increase in the number of applicants for poor law relief, compared with the corresponding period of last year. A similar pressure of applicants has been experienced by the board of guardians at Oldham.—At Preston from 20,000 to 25,000 people are wandering about the streets wholly or in great part out of employment.—The mills at Halifax are generally working short time, and many people are out of employment altogether.—At Rochdale trade is becoming very depressed.—A considerable augmentation in the number of paupers applying for relief at the Ashton Union is reported.—The silk weavers of Middleton are suffering severely from the prevailing distress, and have held meetings appealing to the public for relief.—Several of the mills at Lancaster are running short time, and there is every prospect of a hard winter.—Both the leading branches of the trade at Coventry are under pressure, and some agitation prevails among the weavers on account of their reduced earnings. The weaving trade is almost crippled.—At Sheffield there have been several stoppages of small firms, but on the whole the crisis is better sustained than might have been anticipated.—At Barnsley the trade continues pretty steady, and there are considerably less symptoms of distress than at many places. The board of guardians are giving out-door relief.—In Staffordshire the manufacturers as a body are reducing their establishments.—At Birmingham the arrival of a military detachment has been regarded as indicating apprehensions of disturbance, for which, however, there is not the slightest ground. We hear of the death of a factory operative at Preston of want. He was a widower, and left six children.

EIGHTEEN YEARS AGO. Mr. John Bone, farmer, near Dunnington, got into pecuniary difficulties, and emigrated to Australia. Mr. Bone became prosperous, and some short time ago he returned to Dunnington, called on his creditors, and paid the last farthing, with eighteen years' interest.

THE
MAIL CART
OF INDIA.

The subjoined sketch represents the style of vehicle in which the mails are conveyed throughout Northern India. Where the roads are good the cart is drawn by one horse, and this is usually the case, but a second one is attached to an outrigger when the roads are in bad order. The two horses, of course, facilitate the progress over hilly ground, except when the animals choose to move in different directions, which is by no means unfrequent in the case. The horses, or rather small Galloways—for these are best adapted to the work, exhibiting as they do the best blood in India—are urged at full speed, from which they never slacken until the stage is accomplished; this is limited to six miles, which is usually done in twenty-five minutes. Aowing for difficulty in starting, many of the horses being but half broken in, the average speed is from ten to eleven miles an hour.

The cart itself is a square springless buggy, with extremely heavy shafts and wheels, and rough canvas hood, which is crewed on, should the traveller desire it. The driver wears the post-office livery of sea green with a crimson turban, and announces his approaching arrival at the various stations by a discordant blast upon his long horn. The horse-keeper perches himself behind to assist in putting things straight when they get disarranged, which is not unfrequently the case. The seat by the driver is for travellers, who pay at the rate of sixteenpence a mile if in company with the mails, or one shilling a mile if a special cart is engaged. The rapid pace, combined with the enlivening prospect of coming to a smash at any moment, renders the journey by the mail cart a pleasing variety to the ancient mode of travelling in a palanquin.

THE TOMB OF THE EMPEROR HUMAYOON.

A REPRESENTATION of the tomb of the Emperor Humayoon is of peculiar interest at the present moment, for this building is commonly reported to have been the scene of the capture of the Delhi princes, by Captain or Lieutenant Hodson. A strange story in connection with this event has made its appearance in the daily papers. It is told in the letter of a young officer to his friends in England. This letter, which is dated September 29, is to the following effect:—

"A few days ago, Captain Hodson (of ours) went out and captured the King, and brought him in a prisoner. He is at present confined in his own palace. A few days later, he went out again, and came up with the King's sons and grand-sons. He had only 100 native horsemen of his own regiment with him, and the enemy about 10,000—3,000 of whom were fully armed sepoys. Hodson saw it was of no use attacking them, so he sent an emissary to tell the Princes that the game was up with them, and that they had better surrender, which they did after some time, and came up to Hodson, who immediately surrounded the carriage with his men. He sent for their arms, and, after hesitating some time, those also were given up, with seven elephants and lots of stores. On reaching the jail, Hodson ordered the Princes out of the vehicle; they, imagining all was not right with themselves, began (native like) to talk and say they hoped there might be an inquiry into their conduct. Hodson said, 'Be quiet!' and ordered them to take off all their fine clothes. When this was done, he said, 'Now get in again!' and ordered the driver to proceed. He then beckoned to one of his men, and asked for a carbine, and, with his own hand, shot each and all of the three Princes. He then took their bodies into the city, and laid them out for inspection in front of the Kotwali, where these wretches laid out their victims during the massacre. There are lacs upon lacs of treasure and prize property in the city, and if the city itself was put

up for ransom, it would fetch upwards of fifty lacs."

The Emperor Humayoon's tomb is situated to the south-east of the city of Delhi, adjoining a walled palace or fortress, no doubt the place where the princes had taken refuge. The tomb itself is on a grand scale, rising to the height of 100 feet from a noble terrace of solid masonry. It is nevertheless ruined and desolate looking, the floors are covered with litter and filth, the marble screens are broken and battered, the dome is the resort of bats and owls, and the spacious garden has become a mere waste.

Humayoon was the son of the Emperor Baber, and greatly distinguished himself under his father's banners. The following story is narrated of his father:—Humayoon being at the point of death, Baber determined to devote his own life to save that of his son, is ac-

cordingly with a superstition still prevalent in the East; and so strong was the impression made on all parties, that Humayoon began at once to recover and Baber to decline. He died, 1530, at Agra, but is buried near Cabul.

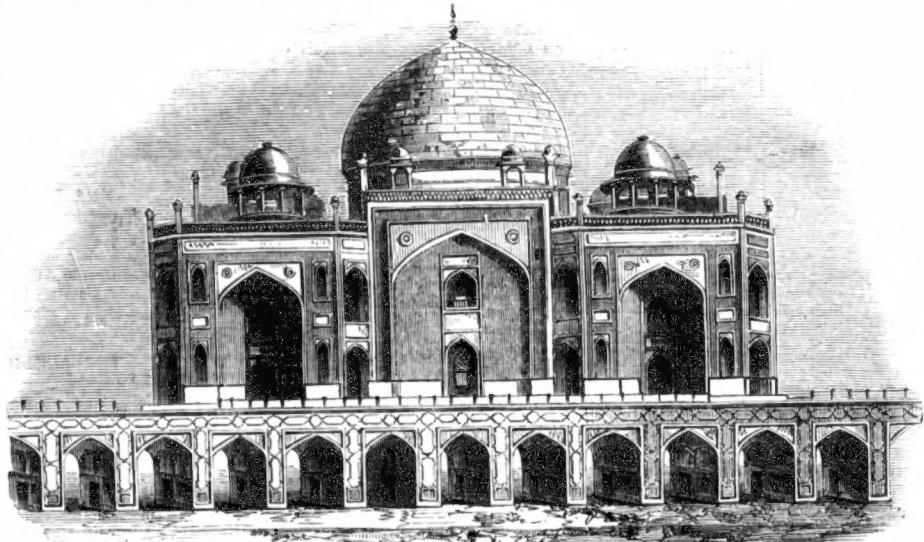
Humayoon's great opponent after his accession to the throne was Shir Shah, an Afghan by descent, who first made himself master of Behar and the forts of Chunar and Rhotas, retarded Humayoon's advance by the obstinate defence of the first-named fort, until he had completed the conquest of Bengal, and then avoiding a contest with a force far superior to his own, allowed Humayoon to overrun Bengal; until the rainy season reduced him to inactivity, cut off his communications, and thinned his ranks by sickness; during which time Shir Shah recovered Chunar, intercepted Humayoon's communications with Agra, and surprised and defeated him on the banks of the Ganges, as he strove to emerge from the trap so judiciously laid for him. The next year Shir Shah again defeated him near Canouj, and obliged him to fly to Lahore, in 1540, followed him up, and took the whole of the Punjab, founding the famous fort of Rhotas, on the Jelam. Shir Shah fell at the siege of Culmner, in 1544. He was no less distinguished as a ruler than as a general. Shir Shah's fort, as well as Humayoon's noble tomb, are still to be seen near Delhi.

THE SPOILS OF DELHI.—A private letter from Delhi, dated September 27, says:—"For a description of the riches of Delhi my pen is inadequate. Cashmere shawls inlaid with gold, bodies covered with gold lace, skirts of dresses, watches, bars of gold, beds of silk and down such as no nobleman's house in England could produce—you would see Sikhs carrying out of Delhi the first day as if they were almost nothing. A shawl which in England would fetch £100 they were selling for four rupees, and you may depend our fellows were not behind them. . . . It is supposed the Rifles will go to England with upwards of £1,000 each, though General Wilson has issued an order that the prizes shall be all put together and divided. Most of our men are worth upwards of 100 rupees."

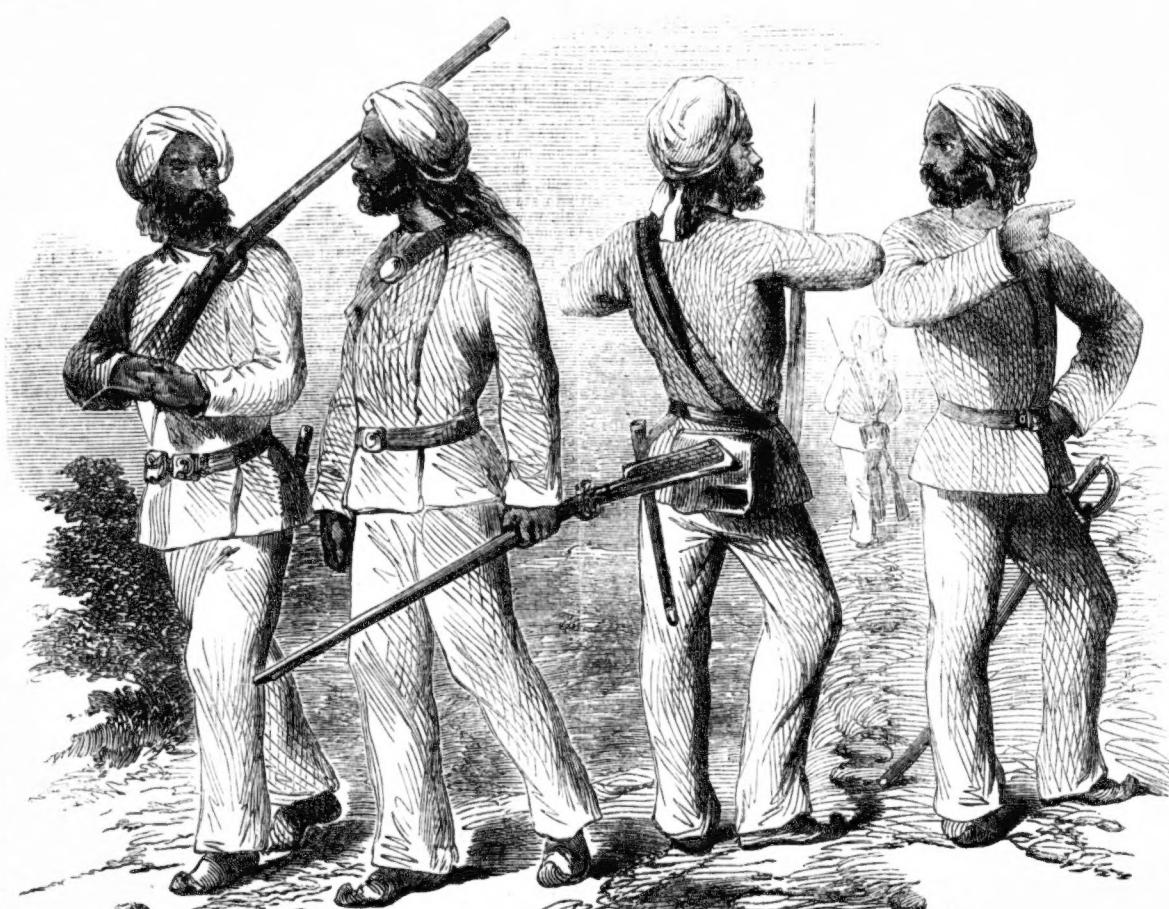
THE INDIAN MUTINY FUND AND BOORAM BUKHSH.—The case of the trooper Booram Bukhsh, who escorted the wife and family of Capt. Speed, then in command of 2nd Infantry, Hyderabad Contingent, to a distant place of security, leaving his own children as hostages for the safety of his charge, has been taken into consideration of the Indian Relief Fund committee—a proceeding all the more according to the letter of their duties because it appears that the result of this faithful discharge of duty was, that the trooper's house and effects were maliciously destroyed by fire. The committee, not being aware of the extent of destitution thus occasioned, but being especially desirous of relieving any distress which may have been incurred in consequence of such signal fidelity, have placed at the disposal of the Resident at Hyderabad the sum of five hundred rupees for the use of this brave and deserving man.



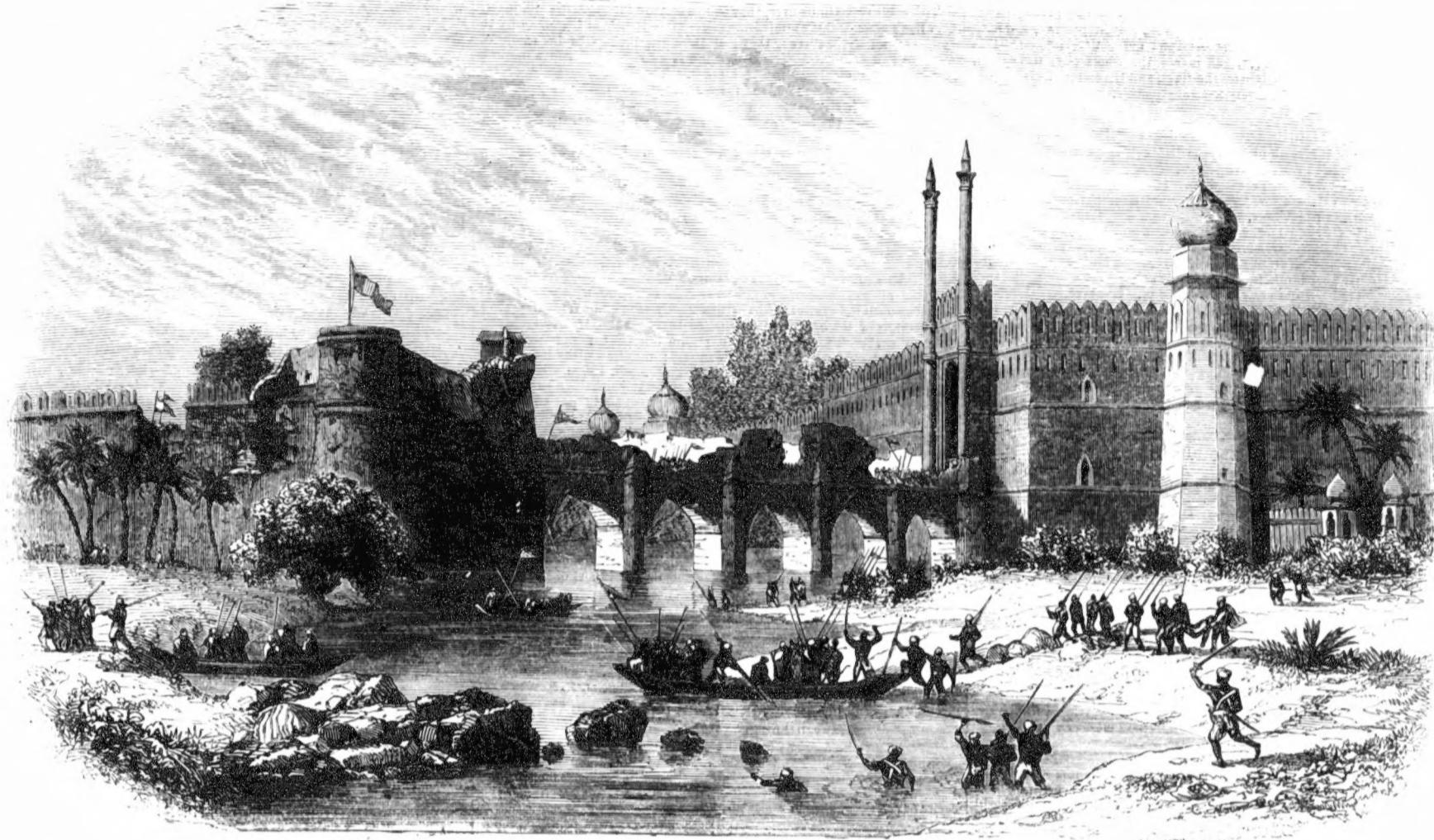
MAIL-CART IN NORTHERN INDIA: OFFICER ON HIS WAY TO JOIN THE DELHI ARMY.—(FROM A SKETCH BY CAPT. G. F. ATKINSON, B.E.)



THE TOMB OF THE EMPEROR HUMAYOON, THE SCENE OF THE CAPTURE OF THE DELHI PRINCES.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.)



SIKHS OF THE PUNJAB IRREGULAR FORCE, SERVING WITH THE BRITISH TROOPS AT DELHI.



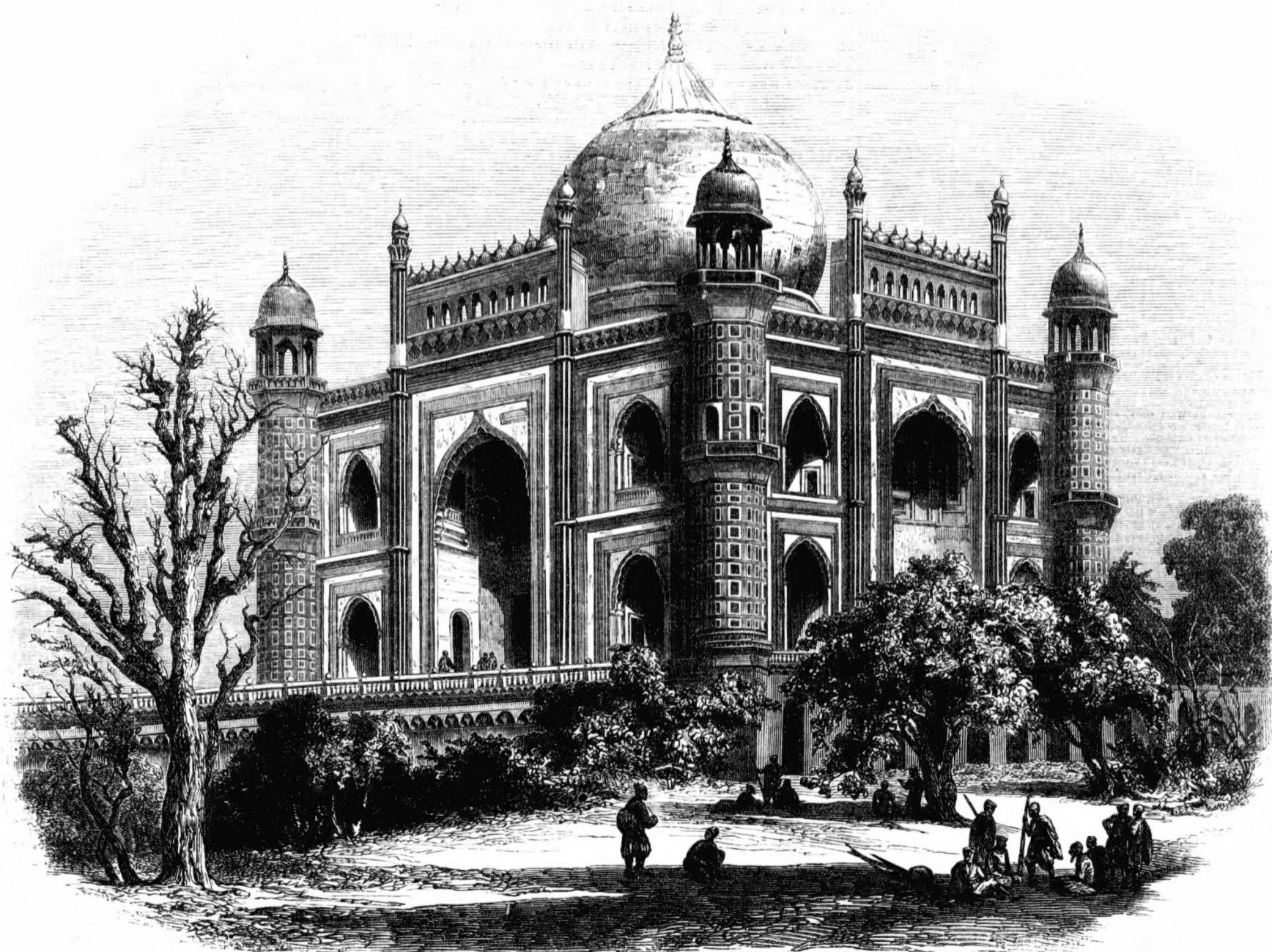
THE FORT OF SELIMGHUR, DELHI.

THE FORT OF SELIMGHUR AT DELHI.

The fort of Selimghur is part and parcel of the palace of the King, with which it has communication by a bridge. The fort was built in the sixteenth century, during the reign of the Emperor Selim, after whom it

was named. The principal tower, named Shah-Bovij (royal tower), was made celebrated by Mirza Iraun Backht, heir-presumptive to the throne, who was confined there. By means of a ladder made with turbans he succeeded in escaping, and ultimately in placing himself under the pro-

tection of the English Government. Seventy-three years after, a king of Delhi makes his escape from his palace even more ignominiously—in the guise of a woman—and not to seek protection from the English, but to fly from their avenging troops.



THE TOMB OF SOUDJA DAOLET, DELHI.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.)

A heavy fire was kept up on our lines from the Selegihur Fort during the siege; and naturally, from its close proximity to the palace, it was stoutly defended after our men had gained a footing in the city, and until the King resolved to decamp. The fort itself did not fall into our hands till the 20th, when the palace, and indeed the whole city, was seized. Our engraving shows the palace on the right, and the fort to the left of the bridge, which appears to be a very ancient structure.

THE TOMB OF SOUDJA EL DAOLAT.

Our picture of the tomb of Soudja el Daolet is engraved from a photograph recently taken by Mr. De Lagrange. It is certainly one of the most remarkable of the many buildings of this character which are scattered over the whole of Hindoo-land, though they are more numerous and beautiful in the northern provinces. The history of the occupant of this tomb is a melancholy one, and teaches a sad lesson to ambitious and treacherous spirits. Soudja el Daolet was brother to the Emperor Auruugzebe, who had the eastern peculiarity of feeling insecure so long as his brother continued to live. He had two brothers, both of whom were at the head of large armies, and were therefore not easily disposed of. However, he determined to attack Dara, the younger, who had been named by his father as successor to the throne. Hearing that Soudja el Daolet was daily expected from Bengal at the head of a considerable army, he went forth to give him battle, and completely routed his troops. Soudja el Daolet retired from the field in confusion. Deserted by his followers he hastened to his fortress at Mongor, where he lived for some time with his family. Eventually he was betrayed by the Rajah of Arracan, and was brutally assassinated with his family.

THE COURT.

ON Saturday, the Queen personally decorated with the Victoria Cross Lieutenant G. Symons of the military train, 5th battalion; Ensign and Adjutant J. Craig, military train, 3rd battalion; Lieutenant Presele, royal artillery; and Sergeant Malone of the 13th Dragoons. These officers had all highly distinguished themselves in the late war. The ceremony took place in the Grand Quadrangle of Windsor Castle, in the presence of the Prince Consort, the Princess Royal, the Duke of Cambridge, the Prince of Prussia, Lord Munmore, and several general officers. The Queen, receiving the crosses from Prince Albert, pinned them with her own hands on the breasts of the soldiers. Her Majesty, as she left the quadrangle, conversed some minutes with them, and said she deeply felt for the sufferings of those brave men who had been wounded in the defence of their country. The Royal Horse Guards Blue, and the 2nd battalion of the Scots Fusiliers, were on the ground.

On Friday her Majesty visited the French Royal Family at Claremont.

The seventeenth birthday of the Princess Royal was celebrated at Windsor with the customary honours, outside the walls of the castle. In consequence of the recent death of the Duchess of Nemours, however, there was no great show of festivity within.

Prince Alfred, whose career is evidently to be nautical, is staying at Alverstone, Hants, in a little domestic establishment there provided for him.

PARLIAMENTARY DINNERS.—Lord Palmerston will give a state dinner on Wednesday, the 2nd of December, at his residence, Cambridge House, Piccadilly, to the mover and seconder of the address in the House of Commons, and a large party of members of the Lower House of Parliament. Earl Granville, Lord President of the Privy Council, will give a state banquet on the same day, at his residence in Bruton Street, to the mover and seconder of the address in the House of Lords, and to the Lord Chancellor and a large party of peers.

REFORM MANIFESTO.—Messrs. Roebuck, Morley, and others, have issued the draft of an address upon the Reform question. The following, they say, are the leading features of a Parliamentary reform, "calculated to unite the support of them the largest number of voices, capable of being retained by resolute and united efforts, and promising, if adopted, to secure a real and effective representation of your political interests"—1. The extension of the borough franchise in England and Wales to "every male person of full age, and not subject to any legal incapacity," who shall occupy, as owner or tenant in any part or whole, any premises within the borough which are rated for the relief of the poor. 2. The extension of the county franchise in England and Wales to all £10 occupiers at least; and the assimilation, as far as possible, of the franchise in Scotland and Ireland to those of England and Wales. 3. Protection to the voter by the ballot, on a plan similar to that adopted in the Australian colonies. 4. A re-apportionment of seats, that shall make such an approach to an equalisation of constituencies as shall give in the United Kingdom a majority of members to a majority of electors. 5. Abolition of property qualification for members. 6. The calling of a new Parliament every three years.

DESTITUTION IN SPITALFIELDS.—The distress among the "broad-silk" weavers of Spitalfields is such, that a committee of their body were appointed to make investigations upon the subject. A meeting assembled on Tuesday evening to hear their report, which was most distressing. In one place visited by the committee, a poor, half-naked, and famished-looking woman, with her equally wretched children, stood behind the door while answering the questions put to her by the committee. In Bethnal Green Workhouse there were 405 silk weavers; and in Shoreditch Workhouse 200; while no accurate statement could be obtained of the number in Spitalfields Workhouse. Calculating one loom to each family out of employment, the number of idle looms must be 3,101. It was added that when the weavers were in full work they earned only 8s. a week—so that the cry of "improvidence" cannot be listened to in this case. The meeting went into some discussion with reference to the collection of subscriptions for the alleviation of the distressed families thrown out of work, and ultimately a motion was carried that Mr. Robert Hanbury, senior, be requested to act as treasurer, and receive any funds that might be entrusted to him.

THE LATE GENERAL NEIL.—We have much pleasure in announcing that the Chairman of the East India Company will propose to the Directors a grant of £500 a-year to the widow of General Neil, in addition to the allowances due to the family of an officer of his rank who falls in action. Her Majesty has also, in the most gratifying terms, signified her permission that the widow may assume the title of "Lady Neil," which would have accrued to her if her husband had been fortunately spared to enjoy the dignity of a K.C.B. We trust that the munificence of the East India Company is but the prelude to a national recognition of the services of the deceased General.

FRANCE AND THE SLAVE TRADE.—An important deputation waited upon Lord Clarendon on Tuesday with reference to the slave trade carried on by the French, from the West Coast of Africa, under the pretext of free emigration. The deputation was composed of gentlemen from various parts of the country, to the number of forty-one. We believe that the interview with the Secretary for Foreign Affairs was highly satisfactory, and that his Lordship, so far from discrediting the object the deputation have in view, went so far as to avow that the French system referred to was slave trading in its most unmitigated form.

THE POST-OFFICE AND THE AUSTRALIAN MAILS.—We learn that a new system of "working off" the mails is about to be commenced by the Post-Office authorities. A staff of officials will leave Southampton by the Australian packet for Alexandria, to open the mails and divide the letters in their transit to this country. For this purpose the officials will have a separate cabin to themselves, and will take the entire charge of the mails, instead of the Admiralty agents. This mode of preparing the mails, which has been carried on for some time by the French Government in their Mediterranean postal steamers, will greatly expedite the delivery of the correspondence contained in the Australian mails.

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.—At a late meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works, it was unanimously resolved, "That the engineer be instructed to consider and report as to the expediency of extending the outlets of the existing sewers on either side further down into the river, so as to ensure a great dilution of the sewage water, and to make an approximate estimate of the cost." Mr. Alderman Cubitt said that, by the report of the engineer, he thought the cost would be about £100,000.

THE EXETER HALL SERVICES.—The "Special Services" for the working classes at Exeter Hall, which were established under the sanction of Episcopal authority, and interdicted by the vicar of the parish, have been succeeded by a series of services conducted by Dissenting ministers. The hall was filled to overflowing on Sunday last, when the first of these services was performed. The original promoters of this scheme, driven from Exeter Hall, took refuge in St. Martin's Hall; but the Rector of the parish interdicted the performance of the services there also.—Mr. Eduard is the vicar of the parish in which Exeter Hall is situated; and at St. Michael's Church, Burleigh Street, where Mr. Eduard officiates, some dissatisfaction with his conduct in regard to the special services was shown on Sunday night. A large number of persons who had attended at Exeter Hall assembled outside the church, and spoke in such loud and angry tones of Mr. Eduard's conduct that the doors were closed, in order to stay the alarm of the congregation. The object of the crowd seems to have been to hiss at the minister as he left the church; for the congregation was allowed to disperse quietly, and Mr. Eduard having escaped with them, the crowd dispersed at about nine o'clock.

COLONEL WATKIN.—Thursday of last week was appointed for the appearance of Colonel Watkin, of Eastern Banking Corporation notoriety, at the Bankruptcy Court; but he came not. Merely letters were put in, intimating that he was still too unwell to leave Spain. It was arranged that there should be another adjournment to the 19th of January—the last.

COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS.

The crisis seems to be over, though the demand for money is still great. The Bank directors have availed themselves very largely of the authority to issue new notes; last week, they had infringed the Act to the extent of more than two millions. The Bank appears also to have sold a million of Government securities in the market. The Bank has since largely increased its stock of bullion, and there are constant arrivals of gold, with little drain out of England.

Rumours that the Government contemplate an Indian loan have been heard in the City.

At Glasgow confidence is altogether restored. Large sums have been subscribed by the shareholders of the Western Bank, in order to enable it to resume business; and three hundred firms in Glasgow have pledged themselves to accept payment of rents and claims in the notes of the Western and City Banks. It appears by a private circular issued to the shareholders of the City of Glasgow Bank, that the liabilities amount to £4,576,231, and the assets to £5,702,584, being an excess of £1,126,303.

The creditors of the Wolverhampton Bank held a meeting on Tuesday to consider a proposition of the directors. In order to carry on the business, the directors proposed to raise a sum of £100,000, which was not to be repaid until the debt of the bank was wholly paid off. With respect to the creditors of the bank, it was proposed that they should give sufficient time to enable the management to realize the assets; and with this view, to pay one-fourth on the 1st of January; another fourth nine months afterwards; a third instalment on the 1st of April, 1859; and the remainder three months afterwards; interest in the meantime to be paid at the rate of five per cent. It was further proposed to pay off all the creditors immediately whose debts did not exceed £100; the notes of the bank would also be taken up as they came in. After some discussion the following resolution was unanimously agreed to:—"That this meeting resolves to accept the proposal of the directors for the liquidation of their claims on the bank, subject to the directors and shareholders complying with such conditions and security as the committee to be appointed on behalf of the creditors shall decide upon." A committee was appointed to carry out the above resolution, and great hopes were entertained that the bank would be re-opened in a few days.

M. Foula, the French Minister, is in England upon a financial mission, the purport of which is to make arrangements for the export of bullion.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1857.

HARD TIMES.

THE painful fact is gradually becoming more apparent that this is to be a very trying winter. From north—from south, there is the same story. The wheels of trade stand still, and tens of thousands of workmen are out of employment. This is one of the crises which occur every now and then; which make our ordinary political discussions seem very contemptible; and which bring into play all those theories about the condition of the people, and the means of amending it, which are pursued half lazily at ordinary periods. We propose to say a few words on this view of the matter; but we earnestly disclaim any of that stupid pretence to patronising or preaching at the working classes, which some people affect.

In such periods as this, there are always persons ready to bring forward a pet scheme—sometimes of a socialist, sometimes of another character—for the general improvement. But then these pinches are just the worst occasions for this. All large plans require time for their working out; and, besides, all new plans excite alarm and uneasiness. Now, the recent money difficulties have been the result of panic, as it is, and consequently the more peaceably we can go about considering the problem the better. In New York, the democrats from the Continent have raised the old war cry; and what has been the result in that republic? Why, as steady an armed front as could have been presented to the agitation by any despot that the democrats had left behind. This shows that it is not a question of political forms only whether men shall suffer and property defend itself. No possible arrangements of suffrages and modes of voting will prevent social distress from commercial causes. It is to be met by moral means: and these are embarrassed just in proportion as hatred, and fear, and such passions are brought into play in society. The rich can help the poor—but the right way to bring about this is not for the poor to attack the rich.

The agitator at such a time, instead of considering the plain practical question how to amend the present difficulty, is given to speculating on the abstract question why there should be rich and poor? But the effect of this is only to add a moral misery to the already existing physical one. We must take some social order as a basis before we can amend society at all. When your house is tottering, it is not the happiest time for studying general architecture.

But though this is the worst possible time for agitation, it is right that the distress which does exist should be made widely and publicly known by less violent methods. Society must face the fact; it is merely superfluous to say that it is its duty to alleviate it, since experience shows that it must. It is the condition of labour, now, which determines politics and government at bottom.

What then is to be done? The first answer to this is to show what can be done and what can not. No legislation could now compel the customers of Manchester and Preston to send orders for goods which they do not want and cannot buy. No parliament under heaven could compel an embarrassed mill-owner to keep his mill open, and if it tried it, would only do mischief. Trade, of all things, is self-governed in our day, and will bear interference.

What we can do is nothing new, or wonderful, or mysterious, for these are the attributes of quackery. We can only fall back on common sense and ancient principles. The country, as nobody doubts, is rich; and the claim of one part of it to the help of the other, is as old as—nay, older than—civilisation. Let our general socialities be right or wrong, an extraordinary hitch demands special means. The first thing is, for every man who has the power, to help his neighbour in his own private capacity, which is the root of all social well-doing. The next thing, is for private benevolence to organise itself into some public forms (for local action), and so we may tide over the difficulty into happier times. Besides, every such man-

festation of sympathy strengthens our society by binding it together with kindly bonds.

It is astonishing for how many purposes money is forthcoming in this country. There are ten-pound notes ready for ticket-takers. Not a foreign calamity happens, which does not provoke a subscription. Our sympathy with the nigger is notorious. With all this overflow of benevolent feeling, surely we can manage to help our working classes through a period of pressure. There is no other way. The Lyons weavers have tried fighting, but they are no better off for several attempts. The laws of trade are as pitiless as the winds. But the deeper moral law of charity was revealed that it might mitigate these. And a nation that follows its moral instincts, may safely leave the harsher economists to settle the question of its prudence with Providence themselves.

ENGLISH SUBJECTS IN NAPLES.

THE English were accused nine months since of misrepresenting the treatment of prisoners by the Neapolitan Government. Ferdinand II. appears determined that we shall now have an opportunity of gaining some accurate information as to the state of his dungeons, for the two English engineers who were arrested in July last, on an accusation of complicity in some conspiracy, have not yet been set at liberty, nor is it likely that they will even undergo any preliminary form of examination until January next. Then, even if they are declared innocent, they will at all events suffer six months' imprisonment, and the Neapolitan Government will at the same time have shown what respect it entertains for England and her Ministers.

It is amusing to contrast Lord Palmerston's behaviour at the Mansfield House with his conduct in the matter of the English subjects at present lingering in Neapolitan dungeons. To hear him declaim one would fancy that the name of England—and above all of Lord Palmerston—was a terror all over the world, and we certainly did think that the smaller Powers of Europe were dreadfully afraid of his Lordship and the frigates at his disposal. But although it is not very far from Malta to Naples, it appears that the King laughs at any notion of interference on the part of our navy.

It is well known that English subjects are not held amenable to the laws of any country in which they happen to reside. Otherwise an Englishman of an inquiring disposition would hardly have returned from his travels a few years since without having received the knout in Russia, the schlaume in Austria, and the bastinado in Turkey. He would have come back to England striped like a zebra. To pretend that Englishmen in Naples are to be treated like Neapolitans, is to state that the English are not to visit Naples at all.

What becomes now of Lord Palmerston's boast about the Englishman uttering *Civis Romanus sum*, and being respected? From *Civis Romanus*, it appears that the Englishman abroad has now sunk to the rank of *Civis Neapolitanus*.

CAPTAINS AND THEIR CREWS.

AN unprovoked murder, accompanied with unheard-of brutality, has been committed at sea. Captain Christie and James Neill, the one commander and the other first officer of the barque *Elizabeth*, were charged last week at the Liverpool Police-court, with causing the death of Francisco Rodriguez, a Spanish seaman, under the following circumstances.

The captain who left England with the *Elizabeth* having quitted her at Calabar, Captain Christie came on board and assumed the command, bringing with him three sailors, one of whom was the deceased man Rodriguez, described as having been at that time "robust and healthy."

The vessel had been about two months at sea, when Rodriguez accidentally broke the glass of the binnacle-lamp, upon which the captain seized Rodriguez by the back of the head, threw him down, and began to kick him all over the body." It is said that he continued kicking him with the greatest violence, saying at the time, "You worthless scoundrel, I'll murder you; you shall never live to see Liverpool." After he had kicked him all over the body and head, the captain "lifted his foot severally times, and stamped his heel with all his force on the unfortunate man's back."

All this reads like exaggeration. We hear of a man kicking another for five minutes, and fancy the indignant spectators must, in spite of themselves, have overstated the duration of the poor fellow's sufferings. But the effect of the captain's atrocious brutality shows that to the cruelty of such a monster no limits can be assigned. "Rodriguez," we are told, "crawled to the forecastle. His body was black and blue, and something like a joint projected from the lower part of his back where the captain had stamped upon him."

The next morning Rodriguez was naturally unable to leave his room. However, towards the afternoon the captain appeared, and shouting to him, said, "You Russian, if you don't come out I'll clasp tackle on you, and drag you out." There was a lump on the right side of his head; his nose was disfigured with bruises, and he began to spit blood. He was forced to take the wheel as usual, though he complained that he was unable to use it.

Hitherto we have only seen brutality exhibited by the captain, and can not help hoping that the crew, although they dared not interfere, were one and all struck with terror at the inhuman conduct of their commander. With the majority of them such indeed was the case; and although the proceedings against the murderers of Rodriguez have been instituted by the Government, it was in consequence of information supplied by the crew that they were commenced. The captain had changed all his hands at Kingston; but some of the sailors who had witnessed his savage treatment of Rodriguez succeeded in reaching Liverpool, where they at once denounced him.

One of the mates, however, proved himself as cruel and cowardly as the captain himself, in conjunction with whom he now stands charged with the murder. Exhausted and nearly unable to move, Rodriguez appears to have failed to relieve the look-out, upon which the mate seized him by the throat, threw him on his back violently, and kicked him as hard as he could thirteen times. The Spaniard—still ordered to proceed to the look-out—crawled forward on his hands and knees, "but said he could not see, as the blood was gushing to his eyes every moment."

With similar ferocity—which it would be useless to repeat the details—the captain beat the unhappy seaman several times after the mate's attack, until at last he died, and was pitched over the side of the vessel.

We shall watch the proceedings against the captain and mate with some interest; in the meantime, we cannot help expressing a regret that the Government did not long since see the propriety of taking the initiative in such cases as the above. Captains of trading vessels must be made to feel that they are responsible at home for their conduct at sea; otherwise we shall constantly meet with instances—as we already too often have done—of men without education, and without any preparatory discipline, behaving with a brutality and cruelty which was never exercised by the most severe martinet in the strictest "service" in the world.

THE LEVIATHAN.—We had last week to stop the press and announce that another unsuccessful attempt had been made to launch the Leviathan. The immediate cause of this second failure may be stated in a very few words: The abutments of piles against which the bases of the hydraulic rams rested yielded under the pressure which was exerted between them and the ship's cradle, and gave way to a great extent, and at last in some places broke entirely. The mooring chain, holding the sheave, through which, by a four-fold purchase on land, the stem of the vessel was hauled to the river, also gave way—though the lines are as thick as a man's arm; and the attempt had to be abandoned summarily. Immediate measures were taken to repair damages and to prepare for another attempt.

EDUCATION IN THE ARMY.—It is rumoured that military authorities contemplate altering the intended system of military education for candidates for commissions. The plan lately laid down, and intended to come into operation after the 1st of January next, will not be persevered in, as the degree of scholastic attainment expected of candidates for provisional commissions appears to have alarmed them, and to have prevented many from entering their names for the service.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN has raised to the dignity of Baronets of the United Kingdom, Generals Wilson and Havelock, by the titles of Sir Archdale Wilson of Delhi, and Sir Henry Havelock of Lucknow.

THE ADMIRALTY have ordered four steamers to cruise in the choppy of the British Channel to assist the homeward-bound vessels.

THE AUSTRIA STEAM-SHIP, having on board the 9th Regiment, has returned to Plymouth, with her machinery broken down.

LOD PANMURE is suffering from a severe attack of gout, which prevents his attendance at the meetings of the Cabinet.

THE DWELLINGS of the poor in the Highlands of Scotland are so deplorable, and the lodgings of the agricultural servants so well calculated to facilitate vice and immorality, that the synod of the Free Church of Lothian and Tweeddale, on the motion of Dr. Begg, has appointed a committee to investigate and report upon the evil and its cure.

ONE OF THE LARGEST LANDOWNERS IN VICTORIA has just purchased (for the sum of £150,000) 300,000 acres of land in the province of Otago, New Zealand.

THE SWISS FEDERAL COUNCIL has decided it will not appoint diplomatic or consular agents in Turkey; and, also, that it will not treat with any Power for the purpose of placing under its protection the Swiss residing in the Turkish dominions.

ANOTHER OF THE MEN injured at the attempted launch of the Leviathan has since died.

A REWARD OF £10 for the recovery, dead or alive, of Mr. Joseph Clough, a respectable farmer, who resided at Wincham, two miles from Northwich, Cheshire, has been offered; he was last seen on the 13th, at Northwich, tipsy.

THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE commenced on Friday week, at Freemason's Hall, London, under the presidency of Sir Cuthbert Eardley; it concluded on Saturday.

MR. HENRY GIBBS, poor-rate collector at Birmingham, is in custody, charged with embezzeling £1,000, the moneys of the guardians.

THE LANDLORD OF THE KING'S ARMS INN, near Stafford, has been committed for the manslaughter of a shoemaker, aged thirty-six, by allowing him to drink, direct from the taps, various spirits, until he became insensible, and died.

THE EMPRESS EUGENIE is having a yacht built at Havre, on a scale of unusual magnificence. It is to be a model of the Victoria and Albert, and is to be called the Napoléon et Eugénie.

SIR ALLAN N. M'NAB has resigned his seat in the Legislative Assembly of Canada.

M. SOYER proposes to dine 100 people in each funnel of the Leviathan immediately after the launch. The proceeds of the dinner to be given in aid of some naval or military asylum.

THE SUBSCRIPTIONS advertised to the Indian Relief Fund now exceed £250,000.

THE AMERICAN JOURNALS now frequently chronicle the return of immigrants to Europe, their hopes of bettering their condition in the Union having been disappointed.

AN AMERICAN LADY hung herself, a short time since, from mortification on account of her husband having been caught playing cards with a negro.

EARL GREY is preparing for the press a work connected with the progress of Parliamentary Reform.

A GARDENER at Orleans (France) was lately digging in a garden near that place, when he came upon the body of a young girl, with the head cut off, and laid on the breast; one arm and thigh were broken.

FOUR HUNDRED FRENCH EMIGRANTS, natives of Alsace, who arrived some time since at Santo Domingo, have suffered greatly from hunger and yellow fever; it is said that fifty of them have perished.

THE KING OF PORTUGAL went incognito to the Yellow Fever Hospital, at Lisbon, lately, and found occasion to rate soundly the attendants, who were neglecting their duties. He strongly remonstrated with one of the surgeons, who was feeling the pulse of a patient with his gloves on.

THE MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY have elected Messrs. John Philip and Richmond to be associates.

DR. RIGAUD, head-master of the Grammar School, Ipswich, has been appointed to the vacant bishopric of Antigua.

THE EXPORT OF GOLD FROM CALIFORNIA has fallen off during the six first months of the present year to the amount of 4,070,185 dollars.

IT IS FEARED much suffering will be created in the winter among the operative classes in France. The Mayors of Lyons and several other places have been to Paris to meet the authorities there, and devise some means of averting the dreadful calamities.

GENERAL NEILL has left a family behind him. It is suggested that the nation should provide for them.

THE DEBATES that took place in both houses of Parliament last spring, on the subject of the dowry to be voted to the Princess Royal, have been translated, by order of the Prussian Court, but whether for the purpose of forming the commencement of an archive for the future house of the young Prince, or merely to enable certain persons not conversant with English to read them, has not transpired.

MISS DOLBY is, we hear, about to quit England for a professional tour through Germany.

AMONGST THE PASSENGERS who arrived from Calcutta by the Indus last week was a lady who had been eight hours up to her neck in water with her child, while making her escape from the mutineers.

A LITTLE GIRL was playing with some of her companions in a court in the Strand, when one of them covered herself with a black cloak and mask, and suddenly starting out, so frightened the child that she shortly afterwards expired.

AN ARTILLERYMAN AT CHATHAM received fifty lashes for having refused to perform duty when at Tilbury Fort, and for throwing his busby at Captain Fisher, and telling that officer that he had not earned the Crimean medal with which he was decorated.

SIR JAMES BROOKE of Sarawak is expected on a visit to England. On the 11th of September Lady Brooke gave birth to a son at Sarawak.

LEWIS WHITEWAY, master of the ship Denis Brundrit, of Liverpool, and John Beer, chief officer, have received silver medals from the Board of Trade for their gallantry in rescuing a portion of the crew of the Walton Muncaster.

AT ADEN it is suspected that the sepoys sent to the garrison there have been attempting to stir up the natives to rise against the English. It has been found necessary to confine them to barracks.

THE MERCANTILE CRISIS IN AMERICA has been a heavy blow for the moment to the theatrical enterprise in that part of the world. The Italian Opera speculations are said to have suffered most severely.

THE MOST REV. DR. CULLEN, it is authoritatively announced, has received 1,000 francs from his Holiness the Pope, and 600 francs from the Cardinal Prefect of the Propaganda, for the relief of the sufferers in India from the atrocities committed by the sepoys.

DR. LIVINGSTONE, the great African explorer, was to leave Southampton yesterday (Friday), for Lisbon. The object of his visit is to gain facilities for travelling, &c., in the Portuguese territory in Africa.

THE TROOPS FOR INDIA are in future to be sent overland, says the "Globe." It has been ascertained that as many as 1,000 a month can be accommodated.

THE DEATH OF THE MARQUIS MAXIMILIAN SPINOLA, the eminent naturalist, is announced.

A BLANK COMMANDER'S COMMISSION was sent out to the Commander-in-Chief, Sir M. Seymour, to be given to one of the lieutenants who commanded a gunboat in the late affaire with the Chinese. The Admiral conferred it upon Lieutenant R. Hamilton (1851), who commanded the Hangtay.

SIAM AND THE SIAMESE AMBASSADORS.

THE ARRIVAL of ambassadors in this country from the Kings of Siam will doubtless cause more than ordinary attention to be directed towards that country, so rich in natural produce, and yet so little known. In the reign of Louis XIV. a similar mission was sent to the court of France from the then reigning monarch, who signed a treaty of friendship with the French King. This treaty, however, proved of but little benefit to either nation. Ere we speak of the Embassy to which, within the past few days, a state reception has been accorded by our own Queen, we may as well communicate to our readers a few facts about Siam and its people. The entire area of the Siamese kingdom, including its tributary states, is about 111,000 square miles; but Siam proper is not larger than the island of Java, which has an area of something like 36,000 square miles. The kingdom of Siam joins the Burmese territory on the west, and the British possessions in and around Rangoon and Cochin China on the east. Bangkok, the modern capital of the kingdom, is built on the banks of the river Meinam, or Mother of Waters; it is half a mile in breadth, but owing to numerous sand bars, large vessels are prevented passing from the sea up to the city.

The climate of Siam is similar to that of the countries in the same latitude. It has its rainy, dry and hot seasons, exactly corresponding to our neighbouring possessions in India. The population of the whole country has been estimated at 6,000,000, while that of Bangkok itself amounts to upwards of 400,000, a large portion of which are Chinese, who have emigrated to Siam in larger numbers than to any other part of the globe.

The Siamese are a lively, mild, and friendly people. As a nation they are extremely honest, and murder is a crime seldom committed among them; indeed it is not an uncommon thing for several years to elapse without the commission of such a crime in the most populous cities of the kingdom. In this respect the Malays are considerably their in error, for among them murder is a crime of the most frequent occurrence. The adult male population of Siam are somewhat reserved in their relations with the weaker sex, who are obliged to observe the most retiring line of conduct towards their male friends and acquaintances, for the most trivial attention to wife or daughter is frequently followed by a law suit, which sometimes ends in the offending gentleman being sold into slavery.

Among the Siamese there is no distinction of caste, nor is there an hereditary order of priesthood, as among the Hindoo and other Orientals. Slavery exists to a great extent; it is said that one-third of the whole population of the country are bondsmen. These are of three descriptions—those taken prisoners in war; children sold by parents and persons who mortgage, as it were, their services in payment of debts they may have contracted.

Slavery, however, is very different among the Siamese to what it is in the Southern States of America. In Siam they are treated with humanity, and are considered more as domestic servants. The women, unlike their sex in most eastern nations, are not kept in confinement, but have their liberty, and occupy themselves in domestic duties, and in spinning and embroidery. For their King the Siamese have a profound reverence; he is regarded as a kind of demi-god, and so sacred, that it is considered sacrilege for his most intimate courtiers to look him in the face—they approach him at all times in a crawling position, and when his Majesty appears in public, his people usually prostrate themselves before him. It is profanity on the part of a subject to dare to utter the real name of their Sovereign, and when they speak of him they refer to him as "the perfect one, the lord of justice."

We, however, are under no such restrictions, and may therefore inform our readers that the name of the present King of Siam is Somdet Phra. He ascended the throne on the death of his brother in 1851. Throughout the entire reign of his brother, Somdet Phra retired to a monastery, and for twenty years devoted himself to study, and with such good results, that he is very justly considered the most intelligent monarch that ever sat upon the throne of Siam. He is a good Oriental linguist, having a perfect knowledge of Sanscrit, Babi, &c. He speaks and writes English fluently, and has a fair knowledge of Latin. A younger brother reigns with Somdet Phra as second King.

It is a mistaken notion to suppose that the Siamese, because they are Buddhists, do not eat beef or mutton, or milk, cheese, and butter. They not only eat of these, but partake of venison, game, poultry, and pork.

Their principal beverage is tea, but, judging by our ambassadorial friends, they do not disdain either brandy, ale, stout, port, or champagne.

The Siamese are exceedingly cleanly in their habits and persons; they bathe daily, and after every meal clean their teeth, which are almost black from the use of the betel-nut, which they chew to the same extent as the Americans do tobacco.

The productions of Siam are numerous and of great value. Among minerals, gold, zinc, iron, lead, and antimony may be said to abound. The Chinese are engaged largely in Siam in mining operations, as also in smelting. Rubies and other precious stones are found among the mountains; and salt, which is obtained by evaporation, is exported in large quantities to the Malayan countries. Rice grows in great abundance, and is the staple article of food. Mulse is produced in large quantities; and the sugar-cane, which grows to great perfection, is said to be the finest produced in the same latitude. The whole country abounds with the coconut-tree and palms of various kinds. Cotton is cultivated and grown in sufficient quantities to admit of a considerable exportation to China.

The revenue of the country is derived from a capitation tax on all the Siamese, with higher rates on foreigners; land taxes, Government monopolies, and customs duties.

PRESENTATION OF THE AMBASSADORS TO THE QUEEN.

It was on Thursday, Nov. 19, that the Siamese Ambassadors, accompanied by Captain Clavering, R.N., and Mr. E. Fowle, went to Windsor by special train of the Great Western Railway. At the Windsor station her Majesty's carriages were waiting to convey them to the Castle, where they were received by a guard of honour, drawn up in the quadrangle.

The Ambassadors passed up the Grand Staircase into the Guard Chamber between lines of Yeomen of the Guard, and were there conducted into the Tapestry-room. Soon after one o'clock the Queen, accompanied by his Royal Highness the Prince Consort and her Royal Highness the Princess Royal, and attended by the Duchess of Atholl and Lady Caroline Barrington, Ladies in Waiting, and the Gentlemen in Waiting, proceeded to the Throne-room of the Castle.

His Royal Highness Prince Frederick William of Prussia, attended by the gentlemen of his suite, was present; and the Earl of Clarendon, K.G., the Queen's principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, stood in attendance near her Majesty.

The Ambassadors were now conducted by her Majesty's Master of the Ceremonies and a Gentleman Usher, from the Tapestry-room, through St. George's-hall and the Grand Reception-room, to the door of the Throne-room, where they were received by the Vice-Chamberlain and two Gentleman Ushers, by whom they were conducted to the presence of the Queen in the following order:—First came his Excellency Phya Mantri Suriyanse, the chief Ambassador from the Major-King of Siam, who advanced towards her Majesty in a stooping position, bearing on a salver of gold the autograph letters from the two Kings. His suite followed him on their hands and knees, and as they approached the throne they made a series of the most reverent obeisances. Immediately in front of the throne was an ottoman, and on this the Chief Ambassador placed the salver, after which he performed a retrograde movement for a few yards, to commence a new series of obeisances, advancing after each one to the ottoman on which he had left the salver and letters. His Excellency, still in a stooping position, now proceeded to read in the Siamese language, with a distinct voice, the following address, which was afterwards read in English by Mr. E. Fowle, secretary to the legation:—

"May it please your most Gracious and Excellent Majesty to permit us to acquainst you of the Siamese Embassy—viz., myself Phya Mantri Suriyanse, the First Ambassador; Chau Mun Sarbedhi Bhacty, the Second; and Chau mun Mondir Bidacks, the Third Ambassador—having received the Royal mandates of their gracious and excellent Siamese Majesties, Phra Bard Somdet Phra Paramedr Maha Mongkut, and Phra Bard Somdet Phra Pwarendr Ramo Mahisweso, the former Chief or Major King of the Siamese Kingdom and its adjacent tributary countries, Laos, Cambodia, and several provinces of the Malayan peninsula, and the latter our most respected Sovereign the Second King of Siam, to convey both their Majesties Royal letters with the accompanying presents, and lay the same at your Royal Majesty's feet, as a mark of respectful and sincere homage of both their Majesties the two Kings of Siam to your most gracious Majesty, the all-powerful and enlightened Sovereign of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the vast British colonies in different parts of the world, on which the sun, we know, never sets.

"We have now arrived at your Most Gracious Majesty's Royal feet with all the Royal Siamese letters and presents in our charge. We therefore pray that you will permit us to assure your Majesty with all due sincerity that our Sovereigns—both their Siamese Majesties—have perceived that the mutual friendship between your Majesty's dominions and the Siamese kingdom has undoubtedly become firmer and closer than before in consequence of your most gracious Majesty's good opinion, and is the source of immense happiness and comfort to the people who are respectively subjects of both nations.

"Also, that your Gracious Majesty, having honoured both their Majesties and the Siamese kingdom with your Royal friendship and indulgence in a higher and more intimate manner than has been bestowed before upon any of the nations of the East, by giving Royal answers to both their Majesties' first communications, there the gratitude and friendly feeling of our Sovereigns are expressed at length in their Royal letters now brought by us.

"And also that we of this Embassy have received your Gracious and Excellent Majesty's Royal favour on board your Majesties' men-of-war, and have been conducted with perfect safety on our way from Siam to your Majesty's capital.

"Since our arrival and residence here we have been treated with the highest respect and attention in every manner by your Majesty's Government, whose courtesy it gives us great pleasure to acknowledge; we, therefore, beg to assure your Majesty that we will not fail to mention upon our return to our native land, both to our Government and everywhere, the kindness and hospitality with which we have been received, the remembrance of which will be handed down to our posterity.

"We are sorry that we cannot more fully express the gratitude which fills our hearts upon the present occasion, owing to the duty of laying before your Most Gracious Majesties the Royal letters from our two Kings of Siam, their Majesties Phra Bard Somdet Phra Paramedr Maha Mongkut and Phra Bard Somdet Phra Pwarendr Ramo Mahisweso, and the accompanying Royal presents mentioned and enumerated therin.

"We pray on the part of our Gracious Sovereigns that your most Gracious Majesty will please to accept the Royal presents and letters which we now have the honour to present, the acceptance of which will fill the hearts of both their Majesties with inexpressible joy.

"We pray that your Most Gracious Majesty will pardon any error that may have been made inadvertently by us in addressing your most Gracious Majesty."

The First Ambassador having then presented the autograph letters from the Kings of Siam, her Majesty was pleased to return the following answer:—

"I have great pleasure in receiving the Ambassadors from the Kings of Siam; and I desire them to be assured that I view the embassy as a particular mark of the friendship of their Siamese Majesties, and of their desire to cultivate and maintain the most cordial relations with the Sovereign and people of Great Britain. That desire is most cordially reciprocated on my part; and I earnestly hope that the treaty which has been recently concluded between the two countries may tend to increase and strengthen the friendly and commercial intercourse between them to the advantage of both.

"I am happy to learn that the conduct of my officers, whom I charged with the duty of conveying and attending upon the Ambassadors during their voyage to England, has been such as to contribute to their comfort and to afford them satisfaction."

A copy of the above having been handed to his Excellency by Lord Clarendon, the audience terminated, and the members of the Embassy now returned to St. George's Hall, from whence they were conducted to the Waterloo Gallery, where luncheon was served, and at which they were joined by several of the noblemen and gentlemen of her Majesty's household, who had been present at the reception. His Excellency the Chief Ambassador wore an enormous broad-brimmed hat, elaborately ornamented with gold; and the other members of the Embassy wore conical-shaped skull caps, seaweed with gold, and ornamented with a chased gold spike at the top. Those of the highest dignity had the addition of a sort of curtain to their caps of dark purple velvet. The dress of the Chief Ambassador was very magnificent, being of gold tissue woven on a fabric of gold net. Round his waist he wore a belt thickly set with diamonds of great value. As may be supposed, this reception was a most interesting sight to the select few who were privileged to be present. The Siamese, in following out a national and peculiar mode of approaching a Royal personage, acquitted themselves with the most perfect propriety.

THE SIAMESE AMBASSADORS AND SUITE.

His Excellency Phya Mantri Suriyanse, a noble of high rank, brother to the present Prime Minister, and first Ambassador from the Major-King of Siam, is about thirty-seven years of age, and is nearly related to both the Kings of Siam, being the son of the late Queen's brother, a person of high attainments, and one of the three noblemen appointed by their Majesties the Kings of Siam to draw up, in conjunction with Sir John Bowring, the treaty which now exists between the two countries. His Excellency takes much interest in agriculture, has a taste for architecture, and seems very earnest in his desire to glean such information as may be useful to him on his return to Siam. This being the case, it is not surprising that machinery of all kinds should be with him an object of interest. We are informed that he is now collecting the works of the best English authors on various branches of science, that he may be able to promote the instruction of the rising generation of Siam through the medium of the missionaries, who have establishments at Siam as well as at Singapore. He is also making large purchases of various manufactures, not for the purposes of trade, but for the King, who is anxious to familiarise his people with the various productions of Great Britain, and to encourage and improve their manufacturing abilities, by displaying to them the results of European civilisation. His Excellency has long been a Court favourite, not only with the Kings of Siam, but with the nobles and royal officers of whom he is the chief. He likewise holds the appointment of Lord High Steward to the King, and is governor of the royal palaces and domains. From our portrait it will be noticed that the Chief Ambassador is inclined to be corpulent. In height he is slightly below the English standard; his countenance shows the high-bred Siamese, who is chiefly remarkable for his non-resemblance to the Chinese type. His manners are those of a gentleman, if judged even by the European standard. He is strongly inclined to mirth, and exhibits much general good nature, with an appearance of any kindnesses that may be shown either to himself or members of his suite. He has with him a younger brother, a good-looking youth, and a son, aged thirteen years, both of whom he intends to leave behind him in England, for the purpose of having them educated. To Professor Wilson, of the East India House, he brings from the First King of Siam, who is a corresponding member of the Asiatic Society, some interesting papers and elaborate paintings relating to the Buddhist religion.

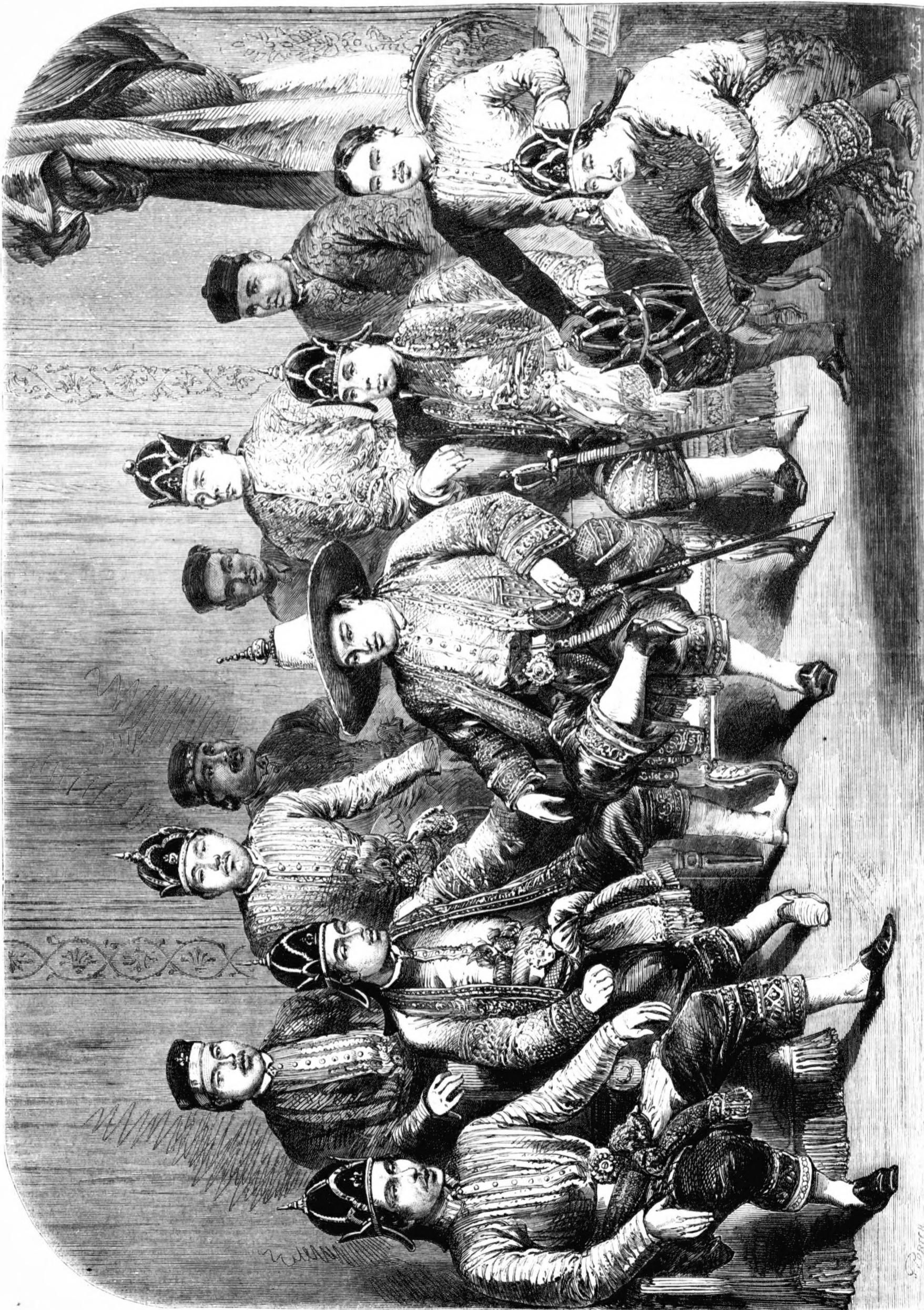
His Excellency Chau Mun Sarbedhi Bhacty, the King's Minister for Private Affairs and Second Ambassador from the Major-King of Siam, is the son of Khon Chintabichitr, a man of great learning, and treasurer of the sacred Buddhist books belonging to the royal family. His Excellency was at an early age adopted by the King, who superintended his education, and bestowed on him the same affection that he showed for his own children. He is a man of great intelligence, and from his conversation it may be gathered that he possesses a fair knowledge of some of our best scientific works; he is collecting for the King such books as the Encyclopaedia Britannica, also Latin, Sanscrit, Babi, and Persian Lexicons—works on navigation, naval and military tactics, gunnery, engineering, and astronomy. He is also purchasing for the King large quantities of furniture, plate, and jewellery; and has commissioned Mr. Hancock, the court jeweller, to make a sword which is to cost between £800 and £1,000. The design was furnished by his Excellency, who is a clever ornamental draughtsman. He is of unassuming manners, and precise and simple in his style of dress. He wears little jewellery, and from morning till evening passes most of his time in dictating to his secretary, or in receiving the different tradesmen with whom he has business to transact. In stature he is above the English standard, with a good figure of a somewhat muscular build.

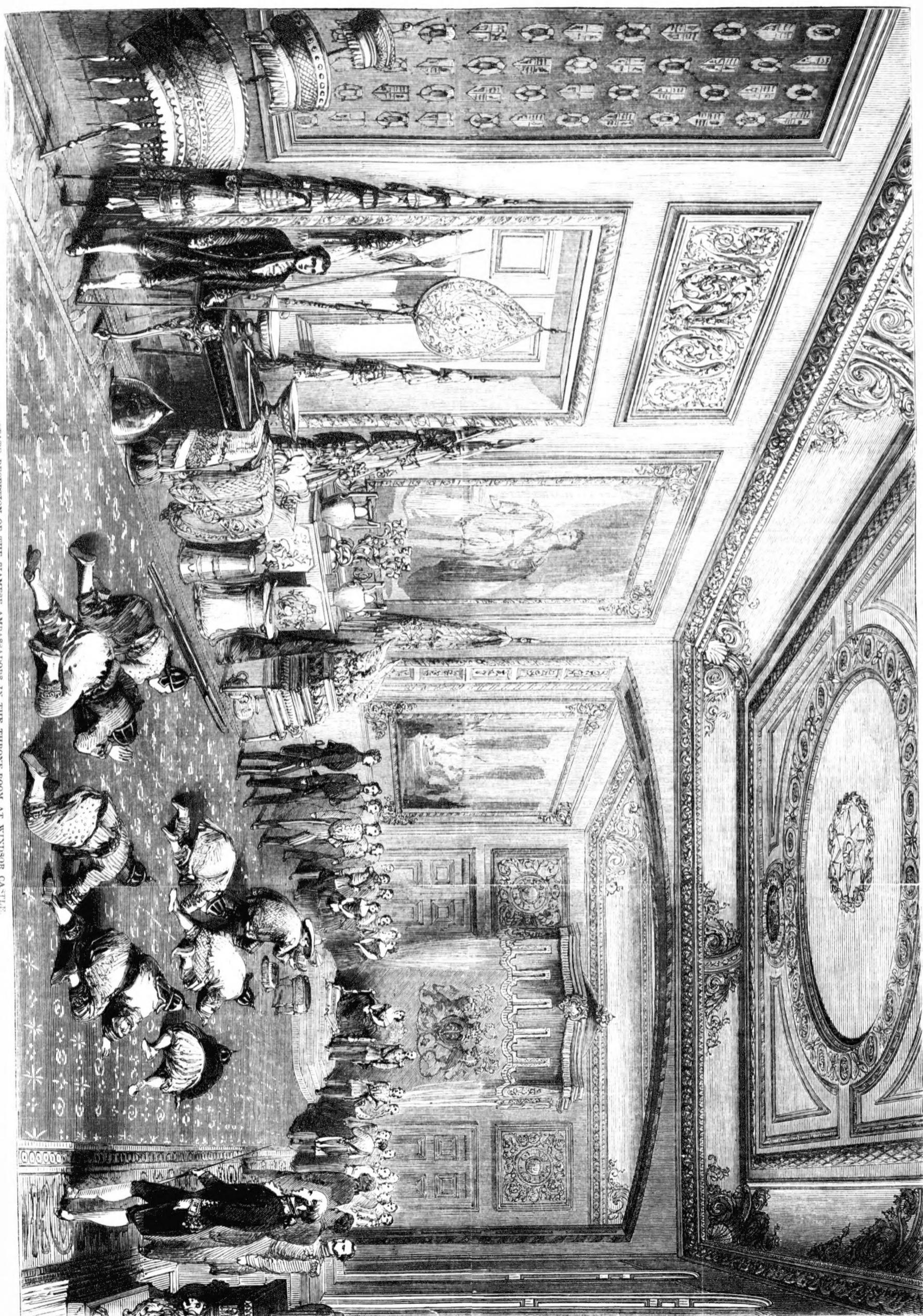
His Excellency Chau Mun Mondir Bidacks, is the son of an old and faithful nurse of the Second King of Siam, from whom he comes as Third Ambassador. Since he has been in England he has suffered much from the effects of our climate, and has been unable to get abroad to the same extent as the other members of the Embassy. He is of retiring manners, and seems pleased at the slightest attention shown to him. He is second in command of the Royal guards attached to the person of the Second King, and has a soldierly bearing about him which well befits his manly and well proportioned figure.

The Honourable Chau Mun Rajmde and the Honourable Nai Biabar Sarbikit are Siamese noblemen, who came in charge of the presents sent by the Kings of Siam to her Majesty. The first is a step-brother of the Chief Ambassador, and holds the second command of the body guard of the first King of Siam; the other is one of the private ministers at the Court of Siam. They are both intelligent young men, pleasing in their manners, and of amiable dispositions.

The Honourable Mon Rijoddy, educated by his Majesty the first King of Siam, is the Grand Interpreter to the Court of Siam, and accompanies the Embassy to England in that capacity. He is related by marriage to both the Kings; he speaks English exceedingly well, and takes great pains to convey to their Excellencies and the members of the Embassy a fair translation of all that is addressed to them. He is somewhat aged, and far from active. His manners are obliging, and there is nothing he seems to enjoy more than a *tête-à-tête* with an English gentleman. He is tolerably well read, and is forming a library of English works to carry back with him; and for his Majesty the First King he is purchasing the most recently-invented astronomical instruments, and talks of the instruments of our most celebrated makers with a knowledge of the subject which is somewhat surprising.

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STATE RECEPTION OF THE SIAMESE AMBASSADORS IN THE THRONE-ROOM AT WINDSOR CASTLE.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

The quarrel between the Board of Examiners and the Council of the Society of Arts is still unsettled; but the public are beginning to have a clearer conception of the real points at issue. It is now understood that the Council are, and ever have been, fully as anxious as their opponents to maintain the public examinations, the question being, not whether these shall cease, but whether they shall be conducted on the costly method of itinerant examinations, or by the plan of examination papers, which the society allege is more economical, and calculated to be far more satisfactory to the members of the various literary institutions in the country. Of the unfitness of Dr. Booth, who advocates the costly scheme, there seems to be but one opinion in the council, every member of which signed the requisition requesting him to withdraw. Some allusions in the speech of Mr. C. W. Dilke, the president of the council, to painful and delicate circumstances, not then further explained, but which had been debated in the council in Dr. Booth's presence, have conveyed a general impression that some facts are suppressed which must ere long be made public. The council appear, from Mr. Dilke's speech, to be about to give an important extension to their sphere of usefulness. The question of artistic copyright, to which the president called the attention of the society, is one of the highest importance, the unsatisfactory state of the law on that subject being notorious. The society will be entitled to our warmest thanks if it can succeed in introducing a reform in this matter.

I trust you have noticed that a crusade has been commenced by the Judges against the bullying, hectoring, blackguarding system pursued by barristers in the examination of witnesses. The other day Mr. Sergeant Thomas asked a witness a question utterly irrelevant to the matter in dispute, and certainly a most offensive one—"Whether he was embarrassed in his circumstances." The barrister was very properly taken to task by Chief Justice Cockburn, and Mr. Justice Erle has also made the subject a matter of remark.

A second attempt has been made to launch the *Lerathan*, and still without success. In fact we may henceforth take it for granted that a continual experiment is being made to get the huge vessel afloat, and the public—as the best informed of the press say—will only know the result when that experiment is announced as successful; or, as I say, when it is announced an unsuccessful and impracticable. Not that I mean to assert that the vessel will not be launched, but that it will not be launched by Mr. Brunel, who, notwithstanding his reputation and name, has yet to earn a character as a practical engineer. The exclusion of the public, who did not get in the way on the occasion of the first attempt to launch the vessel, is prudent for two reasons—it is not pleasant to invite 50,000 people to witness your failures; nor is it wise to injure the prestige of a company before a large audience, when one or two hundred thousand pounds of capital remain to be called up.

The best specimen of chromo-lithography that I have yet seen is now on view at Messrs. Rowley's, in Rathbone Place. It is a copy of Turner's "Ulysses defying Polyphemus," that hangs in the Vernon Gallery, and the glowing Turneresque colouring is rendered more vividly and closely than one would have expected in any copy.

A correspondent writes that he actually has seen the commencement of "Mervyn Clitheroe" which was published by Messrs. Chapman and Hall in 1852, and discontinued by the author "for unavoidable reasons."

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

EGYPTIAN HALL—HAYMARKET—OLYMPIC—ADELPHI—STRAND.

IT is not often at this period of the year that play-goers have such an *embarras des richesses* as at present. Managers are generally too much occupied in getting up their Christmas attractions to provide novelty just now; and for the middle of November to witness the production of three new pieces at *cis-pontine* theatres is almost unprecedented.

Mr. Albert Smith commenced his new season at the Egyptian Hall on Monday evening, to an audience which filled every corner of the building, while hundreds of persons were unable to obtain admission. The present entertainment is divided into two parts; in the first of which the traveller is taken to Chamouni *vid* Belgium and the Rhine, the Bernese Oberland, Zurich, the Rigi, the Lake of Lucerne, the Jungfrau, the Great St. Bernard, and Geneva. This portion is delivered by Mr. Smith with the greatest rapidity (indeed, a duet between a piano and a cornet-h-piston, and a French country air on a tin fiddle, which he plays, scarcely seem to stop his volubility), and is appropriately wound up in the best patter song, to a medley of tunes, which he has ever written; it is descriptive of the English encountered abroad, and is called "Brown on his Travels." Between the parts the dioramic representation of the Ascent of Mount Blanc is shown, and forms a pictorial *entr'acte*. The second part is entirely devoted to Naples and the adjacent points of interest. Mr. Beverley contributes some beautiful pictures; there are views of Naples from two different points, the House of the Tragie Poet at Pompei, the Ruins of Pestum, the Blue Grotto at Capri, a sketch of a party of travellers ascending Vesuvius, and finally, a glowing picture of the eruption. This part of the lecture is also entirely new, and Mr. Smith's sketches of Italian life and scenery, and comments upon the manners and customs of the old inhabitants of Pompei, are full of nice feeling, quaintness, and truth. He also sings a song abounding in classical allusion, and quotations from the Eton Grammar, which will certainly be the delight of all the schoolboys on their return home at Christmas. Mr. Smith's reception was enthusiastic; he was constantly cheered during the lectures, and recalled at the end of each part. At the Olympic Mr. Stirling Coyne has recently hit off Mr. Robson's peculiar talent for the expression of suppressed terror, in a new piece entitled "What will they say at Brompton?" At this suburb reside Mr. Robson and Miss Wyndham, a cosy married couple, and they are about to start for a six months' continental tour, when they receive a visit from a Mr. Croker (Mr. G. Cooke), who fills their minds with terrible stories of brigands, avalanches, &c. Pondering over these horrors, Mr. Robson falls asleep, and in his dreams goes through a variety of extraordinary adventures with brigands and Italian ladies; awaking, to find himself at home and happy. A tale in an old number of "Blackwood," called "A Traveller in spite of himself," probably served as a nucleus for this clever little piece.

"Take care of Dowb"—Mr. Morton's new farce at the Haymarket promises too much in the title for anything to be made of the performance. It is very far inferior to any of the author's previous attempts, and the practical fun which is introduced leads to nothing, and is evidently lagged in by the heels. The dialogue is, however, very funny, and Mr. Buckstone acts admirably.

A little farce called "The Middy Ashore" has been revived at the Adelphi. The principal character is cleverly played by Miss M. Wilton.

I haven't laughed so much at a farce for a long time as at Mr. Bridgeman's "Telegram" produced at the Strand on Monday. The great character was a long thin LL.D. played by Mr. Summers, who appears to have been born and bred for the simple purpose of playing the part. He wears a long clerical black coat, shoes, white cravat, and green spectacles, and his face is so appropriate that he requires no "mugging." The audience shouted with laughter at every one of his entries, and every position appeared to make him still more ludicrous. He looked like a living, walking caricature by "Cham."

The scene of the farce is laid in a telegraph office; and the plot arises from a conflict between the clerical gentleman (who visits London and goes on the sly in Highland costume to the Holborn Casino) and an impulsive youth, who, during the Doctor's absence, has planned an elopement with his niece. Both of them await a telegraphic message to "Mr. Smith," the name which each assumes. A discussion as to the comparative merits of "telegram" and "telegrapheme" is introduced, and in the course of it the long, learned anatomy reiterates the arguments already published in the "Times" on the subject. The farce ends, in the usual manner, with a marriage by consent of all parties. The dialogue and situations are unusually clever and mirth-provoking, and the entire piece caused an almost uninterrupted laugh. Emery was vigorous and spirited to an extent that must have caused no slight strain upon his physical faculties. I won't say anything about the ladies, except that one wasn't bad, and the other was.

The Strand hasn't been in much favour lately; but this farce is really worth paying to go to see; and, more than that, worth going to the Strand Theatre to see—which I consider no small praise.

NEW MUSIC.

1. *Keep thy heart for me.* 2. *'Twas rank and fame that tempted thee.*
3. *A muleteer am I.* 4. *Though Fortune darkly o'er me frowns.* 5. *The convent cell.* 6. *Your pardon, Senors.* Cramer and Beale.

The three first airs are sung by Mr. Harrison, in the "Rose of Castille," to which opera the whole of the above pieces belong. In noticing Mr. Balfe's new work, we stated that it contained too many ballads, and that the ballads were not the best things in the opera. But taken by themselves, Mr. Balfe's ballads are of course immensely superior to those which generally come before the public; and one of Mr. Harrison's trio of songs at present before us—"A muleteer am I,"—is as happy an inspiration as any by which Mr. Balfe has ever been visited. Of this we have already spoken at length, and having had occasion to allude to it again in another part of the present number, we will only say of it here, that, as an air for the drawing-room, it is likely to become a great favourite.

No 2 is a long and flowing melody, and No. 1, in addition to these merits, possesses that of originality.

No. 4 is one of Mr. Weiss's effective bass songs.

No. 5 is Miss Pyne's delightful ballad, one of the most graceful and touching melodies Mr. Balfe has ever written.

No. 6 is the duet in the first act, sung by the Misses Pyne, and certainly the best duet Mr. Balfe has written. The melody and the general construction are alike admirable.

1. *The Romanoff Waltz.* By H. LAURENT.

2. *The Marguerite Polka.* By H. LAURENT.

3. *The Argyle Galop.* By H. LAURENT. Boosey and Son.

The "Romanoff Waltz" is a waltz founded on Russian airs, and is already the most popular of the season. The motives chosen by M. Laurent are the Russian National Hymn (which an inexperienced person would have thought too majestic for dancing purposes); the "Troika," and the "Krasni Sarafan"—two of the prettiest and most striking of all the Russian national melodies.

The "Marguerite Polka" is lively and agreeable, and the principal theme is sufficiently melodious to be easily retained.

The "Argyle Galop" is bold and striking; and the three compositions are all worthy of M. Laurent, who is one of our most successful composers of dance-music.

St. Petersburg Quadrille on Russian Airs; The Queen's Waltz; The Estelle Waltz; The Saroyard Polka; The Soldier's Polka. All by CHARLES D'ALBERT. Chappell and Co.

The "St. Petersburg Quadrille" is founded more or less on Russian airs; that is to say, some of the airs are Russian, while others are the composition of M. D'Albert himself. But all the melodies are pretty and nicely arranged, and, accordingly, the quadrille is highly effective. The last figure, which introduces the popular Russian air, "Krasni Sarafan," is sufficient in itself to make the set popular. The waltzes are good specimens of M. D'Albert's dance music. The polkas are characteristic, and at once suggest their titles.

1. *The Necromancer's Polka.* By T. BARBOR MIGHT. Bray and Son.

The modest composer of this Polka has been kind enough to forward us his own written opinion as to its merits. "The Necromancer's Polka," he says, "is a very lively and pretty polka, and is likely to become an especial favourite in the ball-room. The introduction is very effective." So much for the opinion of the composer, which, we must add, is by no means ours.

1. *Handbooks for the Oratorios.* Cocks and Co.

The Messrs. Cocks are publishing excellent editions of Handel's and Haydn's Oratorios, the Masses of Mozart and Beethoven, &c., at prices varying from eighteen-pence to three or four shillings. The "Messiah" and "Creation" can absolutely be obtained for two shillings each, beautifully printed, and with such accuracy as to have gained for them the approbation of Sir George Smart, Czerny, Mr. Brabham, senior, and Jenny Lind, who it appears used the Messrs. Cocks' editions in preference to any other during her last visit to England. Mozart's First Service and Mozart's Twelfth Service, which have just appeared, form Nos. 12 and 13 of the series.

1. *The Coquette Quadrille.* By A. GODWIN FOWLES. Jewell.

A very pretty set of quadrilles (though occasionally incorrect in the accompaniments), by a very young and rather promising composer.

1. *The Russian Postillion's Song.* The English words by JOHN OXFORD. Adapted to the Russian air by G. A. MACFARREN.
2. *The Last Look You Gave Me.* Written by GEORGE HODDER. Composed by FRANK MORI.
3. *Good-bye.* Song. Written by W. C. BENNETT. Composed by G. A. MACFARREN.

4. *Love Makes the Home.* (Sung by Miss P. Horton in her Entertainment.) The Poetry by HENRY F. CHORLEY. The Music by T. GERMAN REED. Cramer and Beale.

The "Russian Postillion's Song" is a very pretty national air, unnecessarily altered, without being at all improved, by Mr. Macfarren. The English words, by Mr. Oxenford, are of course better than such things usually are.

Mr. Hodder's very pretty ballad is one of several which he has lately written, and is calculated to become popular, with the assistance of Mr. Mori's music.

Mr. Macfarren's song, with Mr. Bennett's pretty words, is one of the most graceful and flowing melodies which that accomplished composer has lately produced.

Mr. Chorley's poetry, which we will content ourselves with calling quaint, contains some happy ideas, and is very near being good. To the "poetry," Mr. German Reed has written a really beautiful melody, which is already known to the frequenters of Miss Horton's entertainment.

Rigoletto, Il Trovatore, La Traviata, and Les Vépres Siciliennes. Arranged for the pianoforte by RUDOLF NORDMANN. Boosey and Son.

Messrs. Boosey and Son are publishing a series of complete operas, arranged for the pianoforte, of which the above-named works form the four latest parts. We have said enough about "Rigoletto," "Il Trovatore," and "La Traviata," in these columns to justify us in not entering upon their merits now; and as "Les Vépres Siciliennes" has never been represented in England, we should be unable to give our readers any notion of it at all, without devoting to it a much larger amount of space than we happen to have at our command. Certainly "Rigoletto" and "Il Trovatore" are the two best of Verdi's operas, while the "Traviata" is one of the most popular. As for the "Vépres Siciliennes," it is a well known fact that it attracted more persons to the Academic Royal during its first series of representations than were ever drawn thither by either of Meyerbeer's great works, and it is already known in England (even to those who missed hearing it in Paris when Sophie Cravelli was prima donna) by a very effective Sicilienne, a charming bacarolle, a highly dramatic duet, and a quantity of very melodious and sparkling ballet music. But without saying any more about the intrinsic merits of the four works before us,—which are the most recent productions of the most popular composer at present in the world,—we will merely call attention to the admirable manner in which Rudolf Nordmann has arranged them for the pianoforte, and the cheap and convenient form in which they are issued. In proof of the good taste and skill with which M. Nordmann has performed his part as arranger, we will instance in particular his transcription of the celebrated quartett in "Rigoletto," and of the Miserere scene in the "Trovatore." We must add that he always follows the intention of the composer with the most praiseworthy exactness, therein setting an example to composers of fantasias and other disarrangements of operatic music, which we are afraid they will be somewhat slow to imitate.

THE BADDINGTON PEERAGE.

BEING THE LIVES OF THEIR LORDSHIPS.

A STORY OF THE BEST AND THE WORST SOCIETY.

BY GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA.

(Continued from Page 347.)

CHAPTER THE FORTY-FIFTH.

HER GRACE.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF MINNIVER was a great prince in Israel. He stood six feet two in his stockings; he was freckled; he had a slight tendency to sore eyes, and his hair was of a hue so violently red, that it was almost a scound, and seemed to embody blind Professor Sanderson's theory of the colour of scarlet: "the sound of a trumpet." He was very well educated, even for a duke, and had written a bulky octavo volume on preventive grace (he was of a theological turn of mind), which had been comously reviewed in the Quarters, hebo nadally laughed at by "Punch," and where the cynics and sceptics of the Enarchenologos Club declared to have been written by his Grace's chaplain. He was immensely rich. Cuntemore Castle and Babylas Park in England; Ramoth Gilead House, sil Minnivertown, and half the Sesostris Mountains in Ireland; Glen Macremont, and immense pasture lands in the Stradivarius burghs in Scotland; houses Sandyshell Cottage, Undercliff, Isle of Wight; the entire island of Bullo-Collish in the Thulian Archipelago (a region producing abundant crops of diminutive ponies, dwarf cows, and sea-kale, and in the caverns of which rocky headlands the well-known Ossian, surnamed Macpherson, is supposed to have corrected his proof sheets, but whose inhabitants had an unpleasant custom of dying of starvation whenever the oat harvest ran short); and the great Chateau de Fanfreluche in Dauphiné (his Grace was Duke of Fanfrelache in France, in right of his mother, the last heiress to the great house of Frobichon-Fanfreluche—see Bragedart and d'Hozier) with its hundred demesnes, its great vine land, and its impenetrable forests, yet the fair, it was said, of the wolf and the wild boar—these are as many of his Grace's possessions as I can on the spur of the moment call to mind. His solicitors, Messrs. Buzz, Buzz, and Pildash, of Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, knew a great deal more about them than I do, and had a prodigious respect for his Grace. So also his bankers, Messrs. Scoop and Coupon, of Lombard Street; his agent, Lieutenant-Colonel Blackship, R.N., in Ireland; Mr. Duncan M'Sporan, Writer to the Signet, his Grace's *homme d'affaires* in Edinburgh; and his English land steward, Mr. Baglow, who was a landed proprietor himself, and had thoughts, men whispered, of going into Parliament some day for one of his Grace's boroughs. His head gardener was a fellow of the Royal Society and a director of three railways. The sons of his tradesmen had commissions in the army, purchased for them by their parents out of the profits from the Duke of Minniver's custom; and if it were possible that there could be a greater man in the world than his Grace, it was certainly his Grace's valet-de-chambre—I beg pardon, "my Lord Duke's gentleman"—who had a coronet, worked in the hair of a *coryphée* of her Majesty's Theatre, in the corner of his pocket-handkerchief; scented his whiskers with "Jockey Club" perfume; belonged to a club (in Major Foubert's passage, Regent Street,) where they black-balled more members than the Travellers', and had positively rejected the Russian Ambassador's groom of the chambers, and her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge's cook; wore an uncut diamond hanging to his watch-chain, and went into the best society—below the salt. The Duke of Minniver had four livings in his gift, and the Bishop of Bosfursus owed his mitre to him. Oxford fellows and Cambridge wranglers believed in him with intense reverence. He returned a Member for Hoggin-cum-Homany (2 mem., pop. 9,302); he returned one for Ballyminiver, County Clare, Ireland; he returned one for the Stradivarius burghs, with so much ease, and with such an utter absence of opposition, that young Fitz-Dufferer, Lord Showful's son, who was elected during a tour in the Holy Land, was heard afterwards to say, that he liked his seat very well, only he could never find out in what part of Scotland the Stradivarius burghs were situated. Such, with lands and bees, rivers and lakes, woods and glens, mountains and vales, deer forests and salmon leaps, sheep walks and cattle pastures, castles and palaces, was John Henry Tudor Montmorency Douglas Fanfreluche-Frobichon-Fitzleman, Duke of Minniver, and a Peer of the United Kingdom, Duke of Fanfrelache-Marquis of Scratchallan, Earl of Mulcreasus, Baron Foggo, a Baron K.G., K.T., D.C.T., an Elder Brother of the Trinity House, Hereditary Grand Corn-utter, a Trustee of the British Museum, a Director of the Ancient Concerts, Lord-Lieutenant of Vampsire, and Colonel-Commandant of the Vampsire Yeomanry Cavalry, President of the Royal Society of Lapidaries, Grand Master of the Cagliostro Lodge of Freemasons, Chairman of the Nor'-Nor-Easter Railway, a Governor of Christ's Hospital, Member of the Academies of St. Vitus of Bergamo and St. Giles of Bologna, and Seneschal of the Manoir of Fanfreluche.

This fortunate man, then—a millionaire, high in the favour of his Sovereign, learned, cultivated, a linguist, an artist, a writer on preventive grace and a frequent lecturer at the Hoggin-cum-Homany Literary and Scientific Institution, and an occasional contributor to first-class reviews and magazines, a patron of innumerable philanthropic societies, an orator on evangelical platforms, a chairman at countless charity dinners, a *donateur*, the friend of the poor, the champion of his order, the star of the peerage—had every advantage, every gift, that can make life distinguished, splendid, happy. His word was law. Miles of English soil belonged to him. He had the *entrée* of St. James's. Before the magnificence of his titles and possessions German grand dukedoms and Italian principalities, splendid as they were, paled their ineffectual fires. He was a greater prince than Schaumburg-Lippe, than Hesse-Hombourg, than Tour and Taxim, than Rudesheim-Marcbrunner. Had he not a hundred and twenty thousand a year? Huzz, Buzz, and Pildash were his bond-servants; Scoop and Coupon did him homage. He was surrounded by lip-service and eye-service, by vassals and dependents, by courtiers and flatterers. He was from the commencement Porphyrogenitus, and his coronet cast a purple shadow on him. As an infant in his cradle—bald, toothless, naked, and helpless—in the first hour of birth, he had more power and influence, he commanded more reverence and consideration, than all the wisdom and learning and virtue of eighty years, in a common man, could secure. He ought to have been the happiest man alive; he would perhaps have enjoyed the maximum of human felicity if he had only been able to open his mouth in the House of Lords, and if he had not been eaten up with the king's evil.

Lazarus—Lazarus! ragged forlorn man, whom Dives's footman repulses, whom the porter of St. Stoneyheart's Workhouse won't admit into the receiving ward, it being after hours, and who is so perverse obliged to crouch under the lee of the workhouse wall all night—be thou not utterly east down, Lazarus—without bread, without money, without shoes. The sun is yours, and the sky, and hope, and a better inheritance. Envy not yonder countess in the carriage: she may have a causer beneath that Malines lace. Envy not Croesus and his millions: he may be a bankrupt to-morrow, and a fraudulent one, and three months afterwards a felon in hidden gray plaiting chair-bottoms in a whitewashed cell. Envy not the king in his crown: he cannot eat for fear of being poisoned, nor sleep for fear of being strangled. Envy not this phantom Duke of mine: he had a hopeless impediment in his speech, and he was incurably scrofulous.

His Grace the Duke of Minniver was, at the commencement of the year 1842, a widower, being then himself in the thirty-seventh year of his age. His married life had not been one of unmixed felicity. Her Grace the first Duchess had been a Muscovite lady, the high-born and beautiful Russian Princess Olga Sardanapalasoff—indeed, daughter of the Emperor Paul's Prince Gregory Sardanapalasoff, who was such a favourite of that monarch, and who afterwards assisted Counts Pahlen and Zouboff in strangling him. To the world at large she was a magnificent creature, with diamond eyes, with a dress all over diamonds, who spoke eight languages, and sang like Madame Pasta. To the Duke, *en petit comité* she was an intolerable shrew, who bullied him, beat her children unmercifully, swore in the French and Muscovite languages, and in bed had feet as cold as icebergs. Her lady's-maids (she discharged about one every fortnight) attributed to her other vices, such as smoking cigarettes, playing at cards and cheating thereat, and drinking eau-de-Cologne grog. It is certain that she led his Grace a terrible life and that for the last two years of her existence they

not see much of one another. She died at Aix-la-Chapelle, of a *œdele d'angine*, which is an ailment invented by continental physicians, and which may be a malady of anything. The "Morning Post," at home, was full of the record of her virtues, and spoke in feeling terms of the usual bereavement experienced by her noble relatives; but from Aix-la-Chapelle to Hombourg they talked scandal of her in connection with the French Vicomte de Conflans-Pouyres, and even poor little Baba Veltchik, Russian Minister at the latter place, wrote home to his *gentil et vaillant seigneur frère* that "*cette diablesse*" was dead. They knew not her in Count Orloff's private chancery, and in General Leuchell's.

It is in this disrespectful manner that great people are talked about after their death. We manage these things better in England. Nobody had a word to say, the other day, when Earl Fitzwilliam died; and didn't the Reverend Casius Lactal preach a general sermon over the Duchess of Castlegagot, who was notoriously no better than she should have been, in which he said that her Grace had been a good Duchess upon earth, and that there was no doubt that in heaven she would occupy that distinguished position to which her rank and virtues entitled her.

His Grace of Minniver was not long inconsolable. He sought and would, not unsuccessfully, the charming Dowager Viscountess Baddington, who was then turning the heads of half London—of all fashionable London, rather, which is perhaps the only London worth talking about—by her beauty, her accomplishments, and her wit. Lady Baddington had been a widow for nearly seven years. She had refused numberless offers, General Count Schaffgotsch I., Ambassador of Austria, had asked her in marriage; the Right Reverend Charles James Dordy, just translated from the see of Brefford to the archiepiscopal throne of Mortlake, and known as "Jumping Jimmy," from his early addiction to the pleasures of the chase, had placed his crozier, his lawn Justice, his shovel hat, and his rich revenues at her feet. Lord Chief Justice Susannah had intended (as broad Scotch) his intention of making her his fourth wife. Captain O'Doyle, the Irish fortune-hunter, late of the auxiliary legion of her Majesty Isabella the Catholic, and a descendant of the O'Doyle Garroo, reckoned in the annals of the Four Masters, had laid such violent siege to her—craving, at first, recompence of his passion, and subsequently pecuniary assistance—that he had to be carried away from her door by the civil force, and the Viscountess's butler had to make a police case of it. At last came the Duke of Minniver, and coming, he saw and conquered.

And so Généviève, Viscountess Baddington, became Duchess of Minniver.

When we last parted company with the widow of that peer who died at the doctor's shop, she was the possessor of a jointure of £20,000, the fair mansion in Curzon Street, and a considerable amount of plate and jewellery. But Généviève of Baddington was a far more advantageous partner when she became the spouse of the Duke of Minniver.

In this wise: Charles Falcon, fifth Lord Baddington, made a bad end of it in the winter of 1835; his viscount having been transfixed by a pistol-bullet one wintry morning after a bal-musique at the opera. He was slain in perfectly fair fight by a young Englishman named Leslie, with whom he had quarrelled on the previous night. By his death the vice-comital title of Baddington became extinct; and, there being no other heirs in the male line, the estates and other entailed property reverted, according to the terms of the fourth Lord Baddington's will, to Généviève, his widow. She inherited, as her grandnephew had done so short a time before, little save a web of embarrassments, save broad acres ploughed up by post-obits, and rentrolls with leaden mortgages attached to them. Yet, strangely enough, as though Fortune were determined to favour this woman, as though the *Tempus edax rerum* were to be to her a revivifier, the ten years I have been harping on succeeded in changing most marvellously the complexion of the Baddington personage. There were lands sold under the Irish Encumbered Estates Act, and the Dowager profited thereby; there were fat leases that fell in, and were renewed on payment of heavy fines; there were trunk railways and branch railways driven through the Baddington property by companies who took up land peregrinately, whether they wanted it or not, and paid for it exorbitantly, to the glee of the landholders and the dismay and indignation (expressed by howls of "shame" and "char" at the quarterly meetings) by the railway shareholders. Finally, a sleepy old gentleman in a wig, with a large quantity of snuff on his shirt-cuff and his cambric bands, and a rusty black gown hanging off rather than on his shoulders, delivered himself one day in a back room in Lavois's Inn-Fields of a series of remarks quite inaudible to three-fourths of its hearers, but which occupied three hours and forty-four minutes in their delivery. His auditory comprised some horsehair sofa-cushions, several bags of crimson moireen, a vast quantity of waste paper, tied up with red tape, and scribbled all over with nonsense in the English and Latin languages; a madman or two, a deaf old woman or two, an abstracted policeman, grown milieued with constant surveillance of the ins of court; an usher with a red face, some clerks with white ones, and a number of counsel more or less learned in the law. His decision, whatever it was, did not seem to create much excitement, and the one short-hand writer present gave suspicious signs of somnolence during its enunciation; but it leaked out from time to time that he (the old gentleman in the wig) would have liked to have had "more affidavits," and that the "costs must be costs in the cause." Half an hour afterwards there were little hints of men in legal menu chatting at the portals of Serjeant's Inn, at the Burton ale and sandwich shop at the corner of Cursitor Street, and at the bar of the Mitre at the Fleet Street end of Chancery Lane, where the sheriff's officers wait for the habeas corpus to take their captives over to the Queen's Prison—more familiarly known as the "Bench"—where the law writers wait to see if there be any manuscript at twopence a folio, or any eleemosynary drunks of spirits to be had; and where those mysterious personages who were wont in the old time to perambulate the great saloon of the futile footsteps, Westminster Hall, with straws in their shoes, and whose occupation is not by any means gone now-a-days, are always in attendance in a philanthropic eagerness to render service to suffering humanity—or, in other words, to become "bail" where bail is wanted, for a gratuity of from half-a-crown to twelve and sixpence. The barristers who alarm and astonish foreigners who meet them flying about Chancery Lane and the Rolls Yard, bewigged, and in hybrid attire, had a great deal to say on the sleepy old gentleman's decision; and next morning the legal columns of the "Times" were filled with a report of the termination of the great case of "Falcon and Falcon" (both parties to which were dead and buried), wherewith were connected the kindred suits of "Delahawke and another versus Falcon," "Falcon versus Rook," "Kately's charity," the "Attorney-General versus Redbreast," and the "Churchwardens of Chelmsingham-Regis versus the Trustees of St. Vauntour's Grammar School." Nobody understood much about these seemingly inextricable cases, whose mystic intricacies had almost faded from the memory of man, and the ink on whose parchment records had grown rusty brown, like the blood of a by-gone murder. The spiders must have been sorry; the moths inconsolable; and I can fancy a grim chorus of doleance in some misty region of the legal shades of disembodied spirits—ghosts of chandelles, registrars, protonotaries, the clerks of the pipe and assessors of the petty bag—groaning that Ichabod, his glory had departed, and that the great Baddington Chancery suit was at an end.

But Généviève of Baddington got—I hate the inelegant Saxonism, but she "got" it, strictly—ten thousand pounds a year. No more, nor less. The Baddington estates were hers. The Baddington heritage was hers, principal and usufruct, income and mesne profits; for, you see, there was no male heir to the peerage. Lord Baddington the fourth had not deemed his grandnieces worthy of a thought, and the Lady Généviève had all.

Who showed herself, however, generous, almost to fault, towards her impoverished connections by marriage; for relatives they could not be called. She first addressed most sisterly offers of assistance to Lady Guy, wife of Sir William Guy, Bart., of Mayford, Kent, who was leading a most ridiculously stupid and happy life, burying herself in the country, making funnel petticoats for old women, and having a large family of children. The grandnieces-in-law, however, who was a most singular young person, and had hitherto pertinaciously refused to hold any intercourse with Lord Baddington's widow, sent a frigid reply, to the effect that her husband's fortune was sufficiently ample, and that, thanking Lady Baddington, she

declined her proposal. Nothing daunted, the Lady Geneviève made amiable overtures to the widow of the late Gervase Falcon, Esq., of Grosvenor Square—now very old, and poor, and paralytic. Her daughters, now irredeemably old maids—they were young still, but Time uses poor people so cruelly—had been entertaining serious thoughts of Irving their fortunes in Miss Queechy Wetherell's "Wide, Wide World," as governesses, replied haughtily, that if the Dowager Lady Baddington (they spoke of her in their own circle as "that woman") chose to render up any portion of the *patrimony of their ancestors*, they would receive it as an act of justice, but not of charity. To this communication, which was written on paper with a very black border (they had never gone out of mourning for the young Lord killed in Paris), their spiritual adviser, the Reverend Brandley Burnes, M.A., perpetual curate of St. Tarbutton, added eight pages of alternate exhortation and denunciation, abundant in similes, and likening Lady Baddington, among other unwholesome things, to Domitian, and Eutychus that fell from the third loft. In a postscript (p. 4) he dwelt upon the want experienced of a new rood-screen for St. Tarbutton's lady chapel, and drew attention to the crying claims of the Associate Mission to the Web-footed Choctaws and the St. Tarbutton's Curates' Goloshes Mutual Aid Society. Lady Baddington laughed, and settled an income of three hundred and fifty pounds a-year upon Mrs. Falcon's daughters. The settlement was effected through her solicitors, Messrs. Huzz, Buzz, and Pildash; and the Misses Falcon improved the first opportunity of meeting her in the street, prior to their permanent *avatâr* to Tours in France, to cut Lady Baddington dead in the Sobo Bazaar.

So Généviève, whom Mr. Tinetop called Polly, was rich thricefold, and was Duchess of Minniver. And so there be some of us who ride upon white elephants, and have bangles of gold and jewels on our arms; and some that wear hemp on the neck and gynes on the ankles, and are hauled by the hangman.

CHAPTER THE FORTY-SIXTH.

THE DUCHESS OF MINNIVER RECEIVES A DISTINGUISHED GUEST.

The Lady Généviève's entertainments were the strawberry leaves and cream of fashionable life. Almacks was not more exclusive. Indeed many considered it to be much easier to procure a voucher granting admission to those skyblue saloons with the cracked walls, than to secure a card for one of the Duchess of Minniver's inevitable entertainments. The great author of "Vanity Fair" once favoured his readers with what he doubtless considered to be an infallible recipe for getting into good society. "If you want to be asked to dinner," he says, "ask to be asked." I think the Duchess of Minniver would have taken a vast amount of asking before she had condescended to ask any one to her board whom it was not her gracious pleasure to receive.

The London season had had its triumphs, and was now in the wane. Her Majesty's Theatre—people had not heard of Mr. Gye then—was closed. Grisi and Mario were off to the Continent to earn a few hundred thousand francs before wintering in St. Petersburg. The men in the red jackets began to disappear from St. James's Street and Pall Mall; the furies to reign undisturbed in the bow-windows of the clubs. There were fewer amazons in Rotten Row—fewer broughams, with lapdogs looking out of the windows, in the Ladies' Mile. The courteous shopmen at the circulating libraries were no longer overwhelmed with demands for the last new novel (no circulating library will ever be overwhelmed with demands for this); hothouse pines no longer absorbed the attention of Mr. Staymaker of the Grand Avenue, Covent Garden Market; Mrs. Buck, over against St. Paul's Church, ceased in her hitherto ceaseless occupation of making up bouquets for fashionable soirées; the affable Mr. Shee, at Cramer and Beale's, was pestered no more for Linley's ballads or Thalberg's variations; Swan and Edgar and Howell and James's journeymen had breathing time; Mr. Hancock, the jeweller, began to post up his diary of conversations with the crowned heads of Europe during the past three months; the lodging-house keepers of Brighton and St. Leonards began to rub their hands. Among the continental hotel-keepers, from the brigands of Boulogne to the vampires of Venice, there ran a shout of gratulation at the thought of the approaching rush of autumnal tourists; Mr. Albert Smith (had he invented Mont Blanc then, which he hadn't) would have been rushing in a flanom to some railway terminus whose line had the most branches, devising, as he sped, some new way of reaching the monarch of mountains—this time, perchance *rid* the caves of Elephanta, Honolulu, and Lake Tschudi. The House of Commons was massacring new-born bills with Herodion cruelty and celerity; the Ministerial whitebeet shuddered, in their tanks of Greenwich, at the thought of their coming martyrdom by batter and bevelment; theatrical managers took tickets for Paris, to see what was going on at the Palais Royal or the Porte St. Martin; and the LONDON SEASON was doomed.

But Généviève, Duchess of Minniver, was determined to be in at its death; and she issued cards for a grand *sorâte lansante*, to be held at her mansion in Belgravia—Parliament sat late that year—in the last half of the month of August. The invitation kept many noble families in town: they could not miss the dear Duchess's ball, they said; and the Misses Falcon at Boulogne coming from M. Adams the banker's, where they had been drawing their quarterly stipend, to read "*Galigai*," wondered how that designing creature had ever managed to get into society. "If it hadn't been for our poor dear uncle's infatuation," they said—

Their poor dear grandaunt was going to Grand Cairo, Jerusalem, the white Nile, *que sais-je?* at the end of the season, and she was determined her last ball should be a grand one. She took the House of Lords and the House of Commons and shook them carefully in a sieve, separating the wheat from the chaff; she filtered the *corps diplomatique*, retaining the most pellicid drops thereof; she distilled the "Court Guide" in an alembic of much power; fumigated "Webster's Royal Red Book," visited the fashionable menageries, and took the lions which roared the loudest; skimmed off the *crème de la crème* of rank, beauty, and fashion, extracted a few flasks of attar from some bushes of aristocratic rose-leaves—and issued her cards of invitation accordingly.

There was wailing and gnashing of teeth, or simperings of pleasure, or croakings of envy, or titterings of suppressed mortification, as her powdered footmen—she had so many now that she could scarcely count them!—bore round her perfumed missives, with the dual coronet on the seal. To be asked to the Duchess of Minniver's was like being asked to one of Louis Quatorze's hydraulic-pyrotechnic fêtes. It was *éve de Marly*, as it is *éve de Compiegne* now-a-days. So eager were people to come to her feasts, that she had but one answer declining her invitation. It was from old Lady Golgotha (George IV.'s Lady Golgotha), who was ninety, and died the week afterwards, and could therefore, I think, be rationally excused. The fashionable milliners had a hard time of it to make the dresses that were required for the festivity; but they consoled their overtasked work-women by telling them that this was to be the last ball of the season. Sir Townsend Towser, of the Life Guards, who was labouring under a temporary difficulty in the Valley of the Shadow of Debt—to the extent, indeed, of inhabiting apartment No. 9 in 2 in the Queen's Bench—regretted his incarceration deeply. Had he been free, or rather not supposed to be travelling in Italy, he told Lumpay of the Blues and Clumpy of nothing particular save the clubs, he would have been sure to have received an invitation for the Duchess's ball; in which assurance—the Duchess knew perfectly well where he was—Sir Townsend Towser was grievously mistaken.

Sir Paracelsus Fleem was invited. Yes. He went everywhere; though he confessed himself, sometimes quite pleasantly, that his father sold coal and potatoes, not in a shop, but in a shed. He went everywhere, from the Queen's Palace to the most miserable den in the lowest lodging-house in St. Giles's. He was asked everywhere, and had everybody's ear, though he was not a great talker; but, curiously to say it, whenever anybody talked to Sir Paracelsus Fleem, they told him the truth. For it is no good lying to a doctor, my friend; if you do, you die.

And Mr. Seth Tinetop, M.R.C.S., was he invited? No. He was not, you know, "in society"—that is, in the creamy, ineffable, Graud Lamad Society, which alone could satisfy the Minniver exigencies. Yet he was not by any means the same humble Mr. Tinetop we knew ten years since keeping the doctor's shop in Drury Lane. The beneficent years had done

him good too, as it seemed. He felt the pulses of titled people now, and attended earls' children through the measles. But it was always in a sort of secondary capacity. He always attended in lieu of somebody else, or in somebody's unavoidable absence was kind enough to do what was required; but it was always understood, or he made it understood, that he was not the genuine article, but a substitute, a kind of alabas or Sheffield plate, very serviceable and useful, but not the real thing. Don't you know such people, who throughout their lives, sometimes involuntarily, but as frequently of their own free will, are first lieutenants, chief clerks, grand viziers, foremen, and stage managers, but never become captains, merchants, sultans, masters, or lessees? They are marked B 2 for life, and seem to like it. Mr. Tinetop had a carriage now, a little one-horse carriage, and a footman with one black epaulette. He gave quiet little bachelor dinners, where there was French cookery and good wine. A man of cosmopolitan tastes, Tinetop, he could relish his pipe and his whiskey-and-water elsewhere; and he dwelt—wherever do you think?—in the fairy mansion in Curzon Street, which he rented of the Duchess of Minniver's land-agents. But it was a fairy mansion no more. The door was half covered by a big brass plate; there was a night bell; and within the fairy furniture was replaced by steady, medical-looking goods and chattels. Double door to dining-room; inner one communicating with study of green baize with brass nails. Sarcophagus wine-cooler. Portraits of Sir Astley Cooper and Sir Paracelsus Fleem. Bust of Galen. Bust of Grecian female, name unknown, with a straight nose and a round chin. (Why should medical men always have that unnamed female's bust in their houses? Is she the Goddess Hygiea, I wonder?) Round table in the waiting-room, with Boyle's "Court Guide," the "Medical Directory," and an odd volume of the "Scottish Chiefs," to amuse the patients. Everything decorous, medical, strictly in accordance with medical propriety. Oh! he was a wary man!

Mr. Tinetop was not asked to the Duchess of Minniver's ball, although he was one of her medical attendants in ordinary. Her Grace would have just as soon perhaps invited her tea-dealer or her cheesemonger; yet the non-arrival of an invitation did not hinder Mr. Tinetop from driving to the Duchess's mansion in Belgrave Square—Minniver House, in Piccadilly, that great jolly palace with the brick wall in front, *edificatum temp. Georg. III.*, was under repair just then, and they had taken the house in Belgravia for two years—dismissing his carriage, nodding familiarly to the footman, and walking straight up-stairs to the Duchess's dressing room. In truth, he was as free of the house as a cat; and the Duke, when he met him on the staircase and encountered his sly salutation, was rather afraid of him than otherwise.

It was ten o'clock at night, and the house was a blaze of light. There were wax candles in emblades everywhere, shouldering the gas, as though they considered her to be a low vulgar fellow, fit only to flare in butchers' shops, and not half expensive enough. On the grand staircase there were rows of exotic plants in boxes; the saloons were full of vases of odoriferous flowers. Gunter's men were pouring down the area steps. The groom of the chamber—she had a groom of the chambers!—was disciplining his larynx with Doctor Stolberg's voice lozenges, preparatory to his arduous task in announcing the company. The link-boys were aware of the great merrymaking, and came trooping down, their chief with a silver badge on his ragged jacket, hugging themselves in the anticipation of half crowns. Pickled men of the A division of police condescended to partake in the (out-door) solemnities. The housekeeper was in the still-room, the butler in the pantry, the reporter for the "Morning Post"—a languid gentleman in whiskers—was sipping chamberlain in a private apartment, placidly contemplating the cream-laid and gilt-edged paper, the crow-quill pens, and the violet ink (scented), with which the Duchess's secretary imagined he would indite his inscriptions. The groom of the chambers and his Grace's gentleman, M. Jabol, made much of Mr. Penguin of the "Morning Post." Mr. Shantilly, who was there from Messrs. Gunter's to supervise, made much of him; Mr. Spphon, the butler, contemplated him with reverential awe, as a man "who wrote in the newspapers;" the Duchess had sent down word that he was to be treated with every consideration. The lady's maid was captivated with his whiskers, and envied his languidness. Mr. Penguin, who was a philosopher of the school of Democritus, who knew the aristocracy better than Gurter King-at-Arms, and nearly as well as a bill discounter, who exchanged nods with marquises, and was on pinch of snuff-taking terms with the *corps diplomatique*, took all this homage in very good part. He might have had his brougham illied—Mr. Penguin kept a brougham—with cases of champagne, trifles, ice-creams, gooseberry fool, pot and hothouse flowers, if he liked. Lords made quite as much of him as their retainers. Prime Ministers clapped him on the shoulder, and told him to make as much as he could of that little speech at the wedding-breakfast. Dowager Countesses were anxious to know if he had been made quite comfortable, and if he had heard quite distinctly Lord B.'s beautiful remarks on conjugal love. He looked much more like a Lord than three-fifths of the Peers, and had more than once been mistaken for one by the door-keeper of the House of Peers. Mr. Penguin did not write his report on the cream-laid paper, or with the crow-quill pens. He wrote it instead on little shabby slips of flimsy paper, which he delivered to a little ragged boy with a gummy face, who was sleeping under a bench at the public-house round the corner in the Mews. Then Mr. Penguin, with an opera poncho thrown over his evening dress, but with his white neckcloth still very resplendent, would walk down to the "Crimson Hippopotamus" in the Strand—that famous night-house of call for morning newspaper men, and have a Welsh-rabbit and a glass of hot gin and water for his supper. He was always affable—never proud, never supercilious, though he lived among the *kaloi kai agapi*. As Mr. Tinetop passed upstairs, he became aware of the arrival of Mr. Collinet's band, who were tuning their instruments dimly in the grand saloon, where the dancing was to take place. There was to be a concert before the ball; too; and Signor Francisco Pulcinella, from Bergamo, the accompanist, was torturing a grand pianoforte to the proper concert pitch. Mr. Tinetop winced somewhat at the discordant sounds, then grinned that own peculiar grin of his, and pursued his way upwards.

The Duchess's dressing-room—he knew it full well—lay at the extremity of a long suite of sumptuous apartments now darkened and devous. But Mr. Tinetop threaded them all, and arrived at last at the entrance to the *sanctum sanctorum*, whose portals were shrouded by white curtains in cut velvet of Utrecht.

He paused ere he entered, though his hand was on the drapery, and with an inexpressibly cunning face, listened. He heard a sound as of some one weeping, and in dire distress.

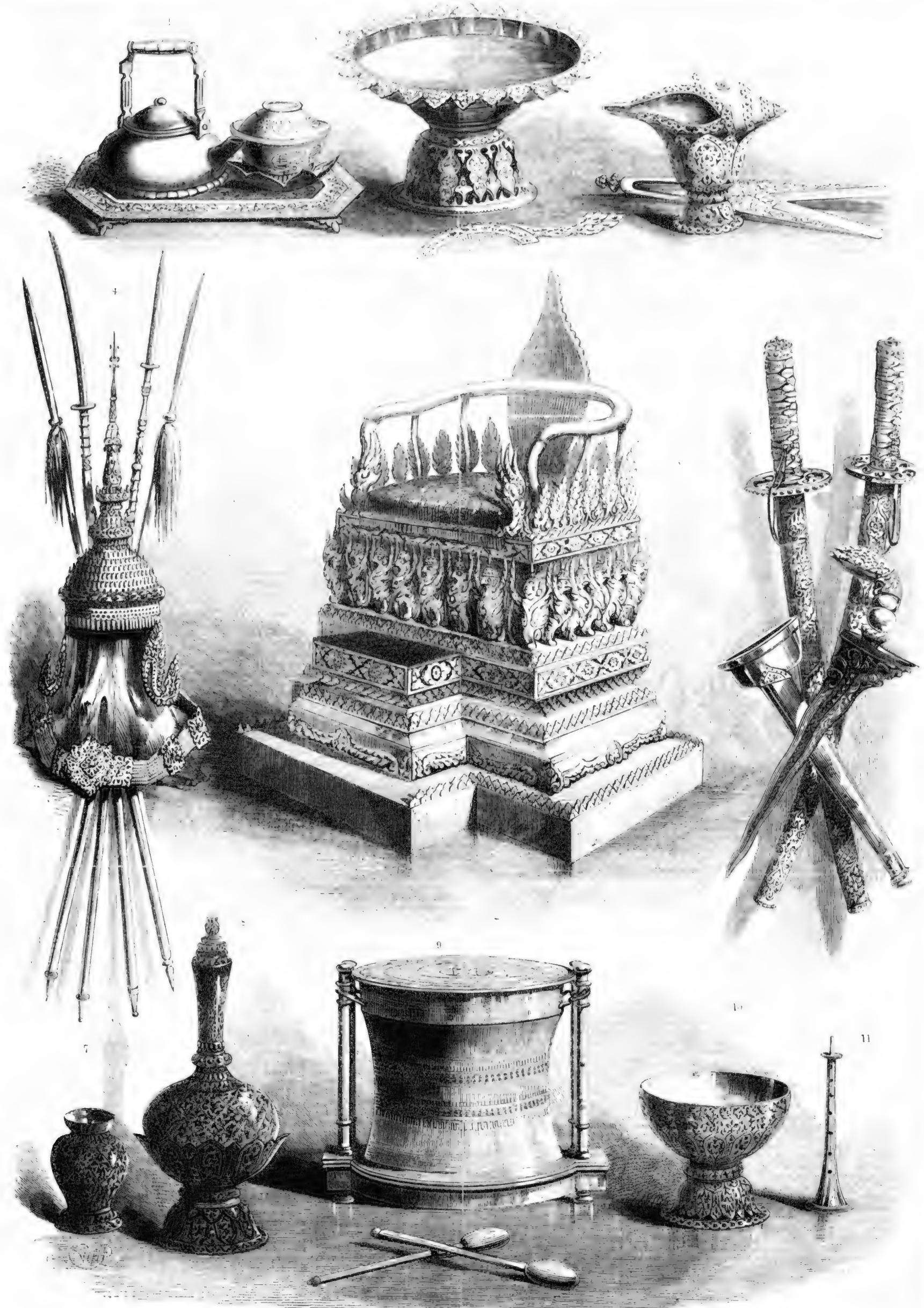
Had he entered, he would have found, kneeling on the ground, with her head buried in the cushion of a great carved and gilded fauteuil, a beautiful woman half dressed, with her golden hair floating over her bare shoulders, sobbing, and murmuring, and writhing, and twining her slender fingers, one within the other, as though she would have broken them.

(To be continued.)

OMAR PACHA'S WIFE.—The Paris correspondent of an evening paper writes the following little bit of scandal:—"When Thiers was premier a table d'hôte was set up by his sister. The wife of Omar Pacha threatens a somewhat analogous speculation, and but for the interference of Lady Canning, would have made London the scene of performance. She contemplates public concerts here, having won her distinguished husband by no ordinary musical powers, and legally married him at Bucharest. His new espousals, à la Turque, with the daughter of an Ottoman functionary, dissolve in her view the matrimonial bond, and she does not lack sympathy. In justice to Jonathan, it is right to correct the French version of her birth—she is not from 'Pennsylvania,' as stated by 'The Pays,' but a native of Transylvania. It is only a slip of the pen."

GRACEFUL BENEVOLENCE.—The great French actress, Madame Dorval, left a boy ill-provided for. He went on a visit to George Sand, who lives retired on her estate in Berry. Touched with his destitution and evident talent, the Republican lady took a sheet of satin note paper and wrote to the Empress Eugénie, asking for an appointment to some college for the youth. The Empress immediately complied.

HITHERTO THE BANK OF FRANCE, acting upon an old rule, made when the banlieue or suburb was much less important than it is now, refused to discount any bill payable outside the walls of Paris. The distinction between intramural and extramural Paris is now abolished by the Bank.



THE PRESENTS FROM THE KING OF SIAM TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

THE SIAMESE PRESENTS TO THE QUEEN.

On the occasion of the reception of the Ambassadors at Windsor Castle, presents from the two Kings of Siam were displayed on either side of the apartment in which the audience took place. They consisted of an Eastern crown of gold and enamel, enriched with countless diamonds, emeralds, rubies, and other precious stones; a golden collar or necklace, also thickly studded with gems; a large star, composed of diamonds; a massive ring, set with diamonds and almost every variety of precious stones; a golden belt, enriched with rubies; a chair of state, or throne, elaborately carved and gilded in burnished gold; a state palanquin; state saddle and bridle, delicately embroidered with gold thread, and ornamented with jewels. There were also banners richly emblazoned, and a cluster of state umbrellas made of cloth of gold. Among the most curious things in the collection is a valuable snow-white shell, ornamented with richly-chased gold and jewels, a cup and saucer of agate, and a tea-pot made of a clay similar to terra-cotta, which is mounted with gold ornaments of the greatest delicacy. Gold and silver salvers, ivory musical instruments, goblets of pure gold, studded with jewels, and ornamented in enamel; boxes of gold, elaborately chased and inlaid with antimony ore, are included amongst these gifts; as also a metal drum cast in one piece, and having a beautiful tone. One of these instruments is to be found in every village, and is beaten on public occasions, and also to summon the people to arms. There are also among the collection a Siamese dressing-case, with fittings of gold, inlaid with emeralds; swords, daggers, and spears innumerable; and certain interesting pictures, representing the coronation of his present Majesty and a court reception, are not the least striking. The value of the presents has been estimated by a court jeweller at from £15,000 to £20,000.

The crown is a high conical cap, not unlike the triple crown of the Pope; and as it is intended for actual wear, it is made exceedingly light. The "umbrellas" are apt to suggest very undignified notions to our minds, as presents from one sovereign to another; but they are very different indeed from our umbrellas. The reader must imagine a golden stick, and on it a flat shade, or umbrella, of gold tissue; above it, on the same stick, and at some distance, a smaller shade; and then again a smaller, until they taper to a point. They are all of gold tissue, and are standards emblematic of regal dignity, being as such planted before the throne at Siam. The star is more like a very small but boldly-projecting shield, studded with beautiful jewels.

The manufacture of the precious metals by the Siamese into a variety of vessels—particularly vases, urns, tea and coffee pots and urns, boxes, and other articles, in which gold is embossed on silver in a style somewhat resembling that for which the Russians are celebrated—has obtained for the Bangkok goldsmiths an Oriental celebrity. Their number must be great, "as the King informed me," says Sir J. Bowring, "that he had employed no less than six hundred for several months in making the tomb of his brother, the late King. The gold vessels of Siam are almost all of an orange colour, which, I was informed, was produced by exposing them, in a certain state of manufacture, to the action of sulphur. Mother-of-pearl is much used for inlaying woods. The glass manufactures are numerous, particularly for the production of variegated vitreous substances, mingled with metallic oxides, with which the temples are covered, and which glitter gaily in the bright sun. Gold-beaters are also abundant, and there is an enormous demand for their work, particularly for gilding statues of Buddha, for ornamenting temples, pictures, and other decorations. Copper and iron founders are also ingenious workmen; and Pallegoix says that by a supply of metal from a multitude of crucibles not containing more than 100 pounds each, a colossal statue fifty feet in height has been produced in the capital."

"Some of the most costly of the garments worn by the people of high rank were, as we learnt, manufactured in their houses; and they prided themselves on being able to produce textures more valuable than any they imported from foreign countries. The laws forbid the use of certain



THE SIAMESE PRESENTS PALANQUIN AND HORSE TRAPPINGS.

garments to any but persons of elevated condition. As to the ordinary dresses of the people, they are almost wholly made from cotton stuffs of foreign origin.

"The arts of drawing and painting are mostly formed on Chinese models, but in a ruder shape. Most of the sculptured images are imported from China, and have all the monstrous forms which are popular among the Chinese. But the Siamese paint, decorate, and gild their temples far more ostentatiously than the Chinese."

We may here add the following native account of the mode of manufacturing a peculiar species of cloth, the use of which is confined to the nobility, who boast it has never been successfully imitated out of Siam. "This description of cloth, called Pha Poom, is used by gentlemen of distinction and rank in Siam and Cambodia, as sarongs or dresses, and is also worn by the nobles and followers of his Majesty and his ambassadors.

This description of cloth has been manufactured to perfection in Siam and Cambodia from ancient times. In the manufacturing of this cloth, white silk yarn is used, and dyed in the following manner:—The silk yarn is taken in the quantity of about a handful; and the parts that it is desired should remain undyed are tied round with the leaves called ka pho, and then put into the dyeing matter, the parts exposed only taking the dye. The leaves are then removed, and tied round the parts that have been dyed, and other parts that it is desired should remain white or undyed, and is again put into the dyeing matter of a different colour, the parts exposed only taking the dye. This process of removing and tying of the leaves is repeated; the silk yarn is all dyed of the requisite colours, and then it is woven into cloth, having flowers on both sides nearly alike. This description of cloth is only manufactured in Siam and Cambodia but when it was first invented is unknown."



We have now only to identify the different objects represented in the engraving on page 364. No. 1 is the terra-cotta tea-pot and saucer and cup and saucer previously referred to; they stand in a gold tray. 2. A massive silver salver; beneath it is a comb, which, with the exception of the teeth, is of solid gold inlaid with jewels. 3. A candlestick and stand; the scissors at the back are a beautiful specimen of Siamese workmanship. The group numbered 4 consists of the crown, girdle, and some Siamese spears. 5 is the golden throne. Gate Siamese swords and dagger. 7. A gold vase, enriched with jewels. 8. A water-bottle and stand of gold, also enriched with jewels. 9. A metal drum. 10. A gold cu. 11. An ivory tasselet.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR DECEMBER.

ALL the principal "Magazines de Modes" are stocked with cloaks and mantles of every variety of form and material. This season the bournouise may be said to contend for fashionable favour. The velvet mantle, with its loose hanging sleeves, and elaborate trimming of passementerie, lace, &c., is rich and aristocratic. But the bournouise has the recommendation of being admirably well adapted to ordinary out-door costume, as it may be made of cloth of the plainest colours. The bournouise is, however, frequently made of very rich materials. At the opera in Paris many ladies have worn bournouises of rich velvet, or of brocade in which gold is interwoven. The hoods are frequently made so as to be taken off or fixed on at pleasure, for the purpose of substituting a hood of lace or guipure. These hoods of black lace or guipure, drawn over the head, and partially veiling the face, have much of the graceful effect of the Spanish mantilla, and their lightness prevents any injury to the coiffure.

Paris is now beginning to recover that animation which has been so visibly suspended during the interval of summer excursions. The Chaussee d'Antin is almost entirely re-peopled. The streets of the Faubourg St. Honoré are no longer thronged with English strollers, and even many of the elegant inhabitants of the Faubourg St. Germain have returned to their winter homes.

But the season of balls and evening reunions has not yet fairly commenced, and meanwhile the attention of the Parisian *modistes* is directed almost exclusively to out-door costumes, or what is termed "toulette de ville."

Dresses still retain their vast amplitude; not only skirts, but sleeves, are made exceedingly full. Flounces are no longer indispensable; as many dresses are made without flounces as with them. Broad side trimmings, in the style called "quilles," are highly-fashionable, and they are better suited than flounces to the thick, massive silks which the looms of Lyons have this season produced.

Many of the newest winter bonnets are made of velvet of two colours, as blue and black, green and black, &c. Small tufts of feathers, in shaded hues, are placed at each side. Flowers and foliage, made of black and coloured velvet, and tastefully intermingled with jet, are also favourite ornaments for winter bonnets.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

The lady on the extreme left of the group of figures has a dress of rich black moire antique. The bournouise is of gray cloth. The bonnet is of crinoline, with trimming of green terry velvet and black lace. On one side is a small tuft of green and black feathers.

The next figure represents a dress of dark blue silk with two broad flounces, figured with bands of shaded blue and black. The mantle is of dark blue velvet, with loose hanging sleeves, and is richly trimmed with passementerie and black Maltese lace. The bonnet is of gray chintz, trimmed with ribbon of the same hue with a broad scarlet edge, and bouquets of flowers made of scarlet velvet.

The child's dress is of velvet-colour silk, and has two flounces; the jacket is of black velvet trimmed with braid. Trousers of white cambric edged with needle-work.

The lady without a bonnet, who is touching the keys of the pianoforte, wears a silk dress of grosgrain colour chequered with black; it has a double skirt trimmed with bands of velvet and edged with fringe. The corsage has bretelles trimmed with velvet and fringe. The sleeves are drawn on a band a little above the wrists, and finished with *monogramme* cuffs of lace. Collar of lace with Vandyked edge.

The sitting figure has a dress of dark blue velvet, and a pelisse with loose hanging sleeves. The pelisse is made of black silk, lined with pink, and trimmed with black velvet and lace. The bonnet worn with this dress is of pink silk, with crossings of black velvet. Trimming of roses, with black velvet foliage.

Of the two figures in the background on the extreme right, the one has a bournouise of brown cloth, trimmed with braid and tassels, and a bonnet of blue terry velvet, with a voilette of black lace; the other has a cloak of gray cloth, ornamented with passementerie and tassels; the bonnet is of gray chintz, with crossings of blue velvet, and under trimmings of honeysuckles.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "ILLUSTRATED TIMES."

Quoting an American journal, you state, on page 343 of your issue of last Saturday, that "the Bishops of Bombay and Madras receive £2,500 (per annum) each, besides a pension of £800 each, and £700 for fees and the performance of other duties."

Allow me to say that, upon inquiry, I think it will be found that the Colonial bishops do not receive any pensions, and that their salaries are the only sources of emolument which they derive from the Government.—Yours respectfully,

PHILANTHROPY.

SUICIDE FROM FEAR OF DEATH.—A tailor of the Faubourg St. Denis, some time ago, became very fat, and from the jokes made on him by his friends, he became afraid that he should die by apoplexy. This fear created, after a while, such a profound impression on him that he was completely absorbed by it, and spent all his time in studying medical books which treated of apoplexy. At length, the dread of dying suddenly so affected his mind that he resolved to commit suicide, and accordingly cut his throat with a razor. As that did not cause immediate death, he flung himself from the window of his room, on the fourth storey, and was killed.

FAMINE AMONGST THE KAFFIRS.—A letter from the Cape says:—"There is every prospect of Kaffirland being depopulated of its original inhabitants. A dreadful famine is now raging throughout that country, extending from the frontier to the Bashee river. Thousands are perishing for want of food, and thousands are now pouring into the colony in the most abject state in search of employment and food. The vast extent of this immigration will appear when I inform you that one of the registrars has registered and sent into the colony 1,000 souls, so that there is now no want of servants. The Government of British Kaffiristan employ about 4,000 Kaffir men on the public works, road-making, &c. Never were a people so completely given up to strong delusions to believe a lie. At the bidding of a Kaffir prophet, the nation destroyed the entire means of its own subsistence; cattle, goats, and corn, were all destroyed, and the ground left uncultivated. They have sold their guns, assegais, ornaments and everything they could dispose of, to procure food. They are now spirit-broken, naked, and starving."

ANOTHER MIRACLE.—A correspondent of a daily journal announces that a new miracle has been worked at Naples. On the occasion of a flood of rain, intercession was made by the priests, and then "the holy thorn of the crown of our Saviour, preserved in Policastro, was observed to incline to the left; and for greater consolation to display its blood-red colour, and to be covered from the base to the summit with foaming blood. Unanimous was the wonder. A sacred horror takes possession of some; others fall astonished before the spectacle of this prodigy. The multitude attest the miracle; and eight sworn witnesses have depos'd to the imperishable truth of the fact."

SINGULAR CASE OF DROWNING.—Recently, in St. John, N.B., on a dark night, a man walked of a wharf into the water. The tide was out, and, groping his way along in the mud, he became bewildered, and wandered up among the piles beneath the wharf. The rising tide made him conscious of his danger, and he was only enabled to attract the attention of persons passing in the vicinity when it was too late for succour. As the tide rose, he climbed to the top of the piles, and through a small aperture in the wharf, sufficient to admit one of his arms, he was enabled to inform them of his situation. The water was every moment rising around him, and he could not be extricated. He shook hands with his friends, passed through the hole all the money and valuables he had about his person, and just as the water was closing over him, he gave some directions concerning his family, bade his friends good-bye, and then the gurgling water beneath announced that all was over. His body was recovered when the tide receded.—The paper from which this account is taken does not inform us why the poor fellow could not be extricated, since he was so near the surface of what appears to be a wooden platform.

LAW AND CRIME.

It may perhaps be remembered by some of our readers that we some weeks ago described the particulars of a charge brought against Mr. Bellamy, a rustic county magistrate, of corruption in the exercise of his office. We will therefore briefly recapitulate that two men had been brought, identified, into Mr. Bellamy's ministerial presence, and there charged with trespassing upon Mr. Bellamy's own ground. Mr. Bellamy being a landlord, and naturally the prosecutor in the case (in addition to being the judge), appears to have become slightly confused as to which of the three characters it was most desirable to exhibit for the present punishment, and future prevention, of the offence charged against the prisoners. As the landholder, he required compensation; as the prosecutor, inclined to mercy; and as the justice, he felt his power in enforcing what he considered a due reparation. So, as a justice, he told the fellows that, in default of their arraignment, he should commit them to the sessions, where they would be heavily fined and imprisoned; as a prosecutor, he consented to receive a reasonable sum in satisfaction, and withdraw the charge; and as landlord, he fixed this sum at a sovereign. All this was very ingenious, but palpably illegal. The facts were made known, and Mr. Bellamy was sentenced by the Court of Queen's Bench to pay a fine of £200, and to twelve months' imprisonment. A great outcry has been made against Mr. Bellamy, as if he had really and morally been guilty of corruption and extortion. This we do not believe. He was, speaking in a legal sense, a duce, one unconscious of the first principles of his duty as a justice, as to be unaware that it was criminal to use his position as a means of enforcing his rights in another capacity. We are taking the wildest view of Mr. Bellamy's offence, according to the defence which he himself put forward. We will acknowledge that such ignorance in a justice of the peace, is as criminal as utter ignorance of navigation would be in an admiral who sacrificed his fleet in consequence. But which is most to blame—Mr. Bellamy for being a duce, or the system which made the duce a magistrate? To men of Mr. Bellamy's class, a great portion of the administration of the law of this country is confounded; with what results the records of magisterial stupidity, tyranny, and injustice almost daily prove. It may be asked why Mr. Bellamy should be so severely punished for the fault of a system. Because, according to the legal maxim, ignorance does not excuse a breach of the law, and because, according to judicial etiquette, founded on the respect due to constituted authority generally, no English legal tribunal can accuse another of incompetence. At the same time, it should not be forgotten that a valuable lesson has been taught, by this case, to these rural authorities, who have received an unpleasant intimation that a false step taken in the course of their blunderings in legislative darkness may perhaps now and then bring down an awkward consequence upon themselves. They have hitherto been under the impression that the sufferers in such cases were only the miserable accused fellows in hob-nail boots, who could not even write to the papers, and whom a false imprisonment of a few months only kept out of mischief. But the country ought not to rely too much upon the lesson being a profitable one to the rural justices themselves. The system should be reformed, and that speedily.

A burglary was last week committed at a house in Lambeth, in which a manufacturing jeweller was in the habit of pursuing his vocation. The house was entered while a large stock of diamonds was supposed to be upon the premises, but this valuable plunder was fortunately missed by the thieves. We mention the case on account of a singular incident connected therewith, and which shows the combination and cunning of the thieves. For three weeks previously to the robbery an apple-stall had been established exactly opposite the house selected for attack. It is conjectured that from this point of observation the habits of the inmates, their hours of departure and return, were carefully noted, and the plans of the robbers laid accordingly. At all events, no apple-stall had ever been near the spot previously, and none has been there since the commission of the crime.

JAMES FENTON WILLS, charged with bigamy, under the extraordinary circumstances of which particulars were given last week, has taken advantage of the smallness of the amount for which bail was required (himself in £80 and two sureties in £10 each), and when last heard of was on board a vessel bound for New York. As a curious contrast to the sum required as bail for a fellow charged with such a cruel fraud as that of bigamy (committed, moreover, under circumstances unusually culpable) we may mention that a man named Cowan, who keeps a quack medical establishment in Westminster, has been held to bail in £200 to appear and receive sentence, if called upon, for the exhibition of some stupidly libellous caricatures and placards.

A most arbitrary exercise of power on the part of the police appears to have taken place in the following case. Two bargemen, in the employ of Mr. Downey, of Westminster, had to keep watch on board their craft at Whitefriars throughout Thursday night last. They were seen by the Thames Police taking a small quantity of coals from an adjacent barge, for the purpose of lighting a fire to cheer themselves. The police inquired their names and that of their employer, which were given. The officers then went to Mr. Downey's counting-house, and found from him that the men had worked for him for some years and bore good characters. The owner of the coals was called upon by the police and declined to prosecute. This was on Friday. On Saturday evening the police took the men into custody. Bail was refused at the station, and the men were kept in durance until the Monday following, when they were discharged by Alderman Challis. The police must have foreseen this result, and nevertheless chose to capture the men on Saturday night. Had they been taken at the time of commission of the offence, they would have been before the magistrate in a few hours. On Friday or Saturday morning the prisoners might have been taken at once to the Court. If a policeman, having any choice in the matter at all, chooses on his own responsibility to arrest a man, whether innocent or guilty, on a Saturday night in preference to a time more convenient for the speedy hearing of the case, he indubitably deserves the severest reprehension.

LATEST ACHIEVEMENT BY ONE OF THE GERMAN LEGION.—At the Mansion House, Christian Sattler, a native of Bavaria, was brought before the Lord Mayor, in custody, upon the double charge of having stolen a bag containing money and shares to the amount of £234, belonging to Mr. Ballantine, a stock-broker; and of having attempted to murder Charles Thain, detective (who apprehended him at Hamburg) by shooting him in the breast with a pistol, when off Lowestoft, on board the Caledonia steamer, on Sunday afternoon last.

MR. BALLANTINE SAID.—On the 2nd instant I was at the Golden Lion, St. Ives, Huntingdonshire. I had with me there a carpet-bag, which contained linen, wearing apparel, transfers of shares, Bank of England and other notes, and nearly £1 in gold and silver—the value altogether being little short of £234. I missed my bag about a quarter to seven the same evening, and have not seen it since.

Certain articles found on the prisoner were here produced and identified by the prosecutor.

The captain of the Caledonia, trading between London and Hamburg, said:—I saw Thain and the prisoner on board the Caledonia on the morning of the 21st inst. The prisoner had handcuffs on. He said he was in pain, and wished to be relieved. Thain asked me to be present while he changed the handcuffs, and I saw them changed. I allotted them a small cabin containing two berths, with a door which could be locked. About four o'clock on Sunday afternoon, Thain came up to me and told me he had been shot. We were then about fifty miles west and by north from Lowestoft. Thain appeared very much agitated, and opened his waistcoat and shirt. I found a hole in his right side about the size of a sixpence, from which blood was issuing. I applied the best remedies that suggested themselves. I asked the prisoner how he came to do such a thing, and he replied that it was not intended for Thain at all; and he meant to shoot himself. He added that the officer had come upon him unexpectedly, and that he had not sufficient time to conceal the pistol. I received from the chief officer a portion of metal from which a lamp had been suspended, and which had been torn from the side of the cabin occupied by Thain and the prisoner. This had been used to break open a corner of the prisoner's box, from which I understand the pistol had been taken. I received the pistol from the chief mate, and it appeared to me to have been very recently used. He also showed me some bullets. When we arrived at Sheerness I got a bayonet surgeon from a ship, who examined the wound in my presence. He said there was no immediate danger. He ordered a poultice, and told us to get the wounded officer ashore as soon as possible. On our arrival at St. Katherine's Wharf he was taken to the hospital.

MR. J. WHITELEGGE.—I am an engineer, and reside at 24, Wellington Street, Manchester. I was a passenger by the Caledonia, and noticed the kindness of Thain towards the prisoner. About half-past four on Sunday afternoon, I saw Thain lying on the sofa in the saloon, wrapped in blankets. He told me he had been shot by the prisoner, and was afraid he should die. He showed me a wound

in his right breast. I proceeded to the forecastle, and asked the prisoner if he was aware of what he had done. He said he had shot the officer. I told him he had shot him in the right breast. He replied, "No, it was the left." I then asked him in German if the balls had gone "through and through." He said they had not. I asked him if there were more balls than one, and he said there were two. He asked me if I thought the officer would be all right. I told him I did not think he would. He replied, "Then he has been guilty of a very rash act, upon which he and the other are both with him." He said the officer promised him when he came to him that he should not be tried, but that when he was put on board he was put on him. He said he could not look over him, and he went about a dog who broke into him. I told him I was very sorry for it. "I suppose I shall be tried for it," he said. "I am a deaf, a robber, and a murderer. I have a man in Hamburg who owed me £25. He said he had bought the *Eliza* myself. Afterwards I told him that he took the pistol out of his pocket.

The prisoner denied the charge, but the Lord Mayor instructed the court to prosecute.

The court was densely crowded, and much sympathy was evinced by his brother officers, for Thain is an old, active, and intelligent man. The balls have not yet been extracted; but it is understood that he is in immediate danger.

The prisoner, who is about thirty-six years of age, is a very tall, dark complexion, and with a strong squint in the left eye. He formerly served in the French army in Algiers. He afterwards served as a private in the German Legion, and was stationed at Shoreham, since when he has been a robber, and imprisoned for three months at Wisbech, in the Isle of Ely. He speaks English, Italian, French, Arabic, and German.

ALLEGED MURDER ON THE HIGH SEAS.

J. A. CHRISTIE and James Millard—the one commander and owner of the brig *Elizabeth*—are charged with the murder of Francesco Rodriguez, a Spanish seaman.

At the present stage of the investigation, it appears that the *Elizabeth* left Liverpool on the 20th of January last for New Calabar, under Pickering. After the arrival at New Calabar, some misfortune occurred between the trading-master and Captain Pickering, who came on board the *Elizabeth* leaving the ship. When the *Elizabeth* was nearly bound in, Christie arrived at New Calabar in the ship *Faith*, and was transferred to the *Elizabeth*. He brought with him three of his old crew, amongst whom was Francisco Rodriguez. When this man came on board the *Elizabeth*, he was robust and healthy. One evening, after they had been off the coast for some time, the captain had him wash out the glasses of the binnacle lamp, in which Christie threw Rodriguez down, and kicked him for five minutes, on his head and body, at the same time saying, "You worthless scoundrel, I murder you; you shall never live to see Liverpool." Rodriguez cried for mercy, and crawled forward to the forecastle, and was unable to move the next morning. He began to spit blood soon after the ill-usage, and continued to do so for some time. Nearly every day from the time the captain beat him with the rope's end. About a week after, the chief mate came forward and asked who had cut out the *Elizabeth*. Some one replied, "Rodriguez's." The mate said to him, "You worthless scoundrel, why have you not obeyed the looks?" and seized him by the throat with both hands, threatening him with his bare fist, and kicked him, it is said, as hard as he could, thrice. The poor fellow exclaimed, "If you want to kill me, take a baton, and reform, and that speedily." The mate then compelled him to go up to the look-out, and crawled on his hands and knees to the top of the look-out, but still he could see, as the blood was gushing to his eyes every moment. He sat down, and then fell down twice. Some of the crew were compelled to help him to the ladder into the forecastle, and next morning he was not able to turn out. It was threatened by Christie, however, he crawled out, assistance himself by which he could lay his hands on, and at last sat down on some spars on the deck, and never took the wheel after this, but tried some plaiting. The last scene is represented as having occurred about seven days after the mate of Rodriguez was on the quarter-deck for the purpose of heaving the lead. He could not walk without assistance, he leaned on the poop for support. The mate addressed him, saying, "You lazy dog, do you come along the quay to set the sick man? Move quicker, or I'll hurry you along." The poor mate was not able to move quicker. Upon this the captain seized him by the head, and threw him violently on the deck, and kicked him all over the body. Rodriguez got on his feet afterwards, and in about four or five days he died, and was thrown overboard.

The case was remanded.

DISGRACEFUL SCENE IN A CHURCHYARD.

MISS SCOBELL, a daughter of the Rev. John Scobell, the rector of All Saints, Lewes, had for some months been living at Sackville (Catholic) College, East Grinstead, and here she died. The remains of the young lady were brought from the college to the Lewes station by rail, on the evening of Wednesday week, accompanied by the chief warden of the college (the Rev. Mr. Neale) and seven or eight of the ladies of the sisterhood. When the coffin, covered with a cross-embroidered pall, was taken out of the train, a number of the inhabitants of the town collected and followed the procession to All Saints' Church, the rector and his family having joined on the way. The church was crowded, and the burial service was read by the Rev. Mr. Hutcheson, of Firle. The procession then moved round the church to Mr. Scobell's family vault. At the close of the service one of the sisters attempted to place a garland upon the coffin, and Mr. Neale was about to commence to read some other service, when Mr. Scobell objected, saying that he did not wish to have any service performed over the remains of his daughter except that prescribed by the church; and expressing his hope that the inhabitants would protect him and his family from molestation while in the vault. Mr. Neale persisted in performing his service, when some one in the crowd called out, "No Popery." This was followed by another cry of "Turn him out." Almost instantly the crowd rushed upon the Rev. Gentleman and the sisters, whom they expelled with violence from the churchyard. They were then pursued through the streets by the mob, who tore the garments of both the women and the priest. For some minutes they could find no place of refuge, but at length succeeded in getting into the King Inn, Southover. The mob remained in front of the inn, yelling and shouting "No Popery," while the priest and the sisters were secreted in a state of great fear. The former eventually succeeded in escaping, without his coat through a field, to the railway station; and a body of police, under Superintendent Jeuner, having arrived, the sisters were conveyed to the railway station in a hackney carriage, which was followed by a mob of 500 or 600, yelling and shouting "No Popery." At the station the party remained in comparative safety till they departed for East Grinstead.

Mr. Neale has given the newspapers his narrative of the affair. He believes that the attack was preconcerted. In the vault, when the mob were growing fierce, Mr. Neale said to the incumbent of All Saints, "Mr. Scobell, you see threatening the mob is; will you not protect the Sisters?" He bowed, and passed on, "and that is; will it not be remembered, when his daughter had died in the vault only five days previously. While this was passing, the lights were either extinguished or so flashed in our faces as to make a confusion worse than darkness. There was a cry of 'Do your duty!' Now the performance is to come off!" and a rush was immediately made upon us. The impression of all of us that some at least of the bearers and light-men were the ring-leaders of the mob. But the strangest part of all was that men, decided in the garb of gentility could stand by and see ladies dashed this way and that, their veils disengaged, and their dresses torn, and, far from rendering the least assistance, could actually excite the dregs of the rabble to further violence. I was myself knocked down, and for a moment, while under the feet of the mob, gave myself up for lost. We were borne along into the street, Mr. Scobell being quickly gone home, and taking no further interest in the matter." Mr. Neale further said:—"I see it stated in a paper of yesterday that I had attempted at the vault to read some additional prayers at the conclusion of the service. This is absolutely and totally false. There is not a shadow of truth in it; and I should have been the very last to have for one moment contemplated so very indecent an interruption."

MELANCHOLY AFFAIR.—Maria Lewis, a young single woman, was on Saturday found dead in her room in the Commercial Road; her little girl was by her side. The unhappy woman, who was only twenty-five years of age, had taken oxalic acid, and had given some to her child. An antidote was administered to the latter, and when she was sufficiently recovered, she said, "Mother took some of the stuff, and then gave me a little; but I was sick, and did not swallow it. It was so acid I could not take much." A letter written by Maria Lewis to her sister was found. "Dear Sister," it said, "I am much obliged to you for your kindness to me and my child, but I know that I have not paid you for what we have had. The cards (pawnbroker's tickets) will pay you for all. What things there are in pledge belonging to me you must get out, and that long old Indian gown you have given me. So God bless you, God bless you, God bless you. —P.S. I have taken the child's life as well as my own, so that she should not be any trouble to any of you."

THE "CHAIN GANG."—A young woman lately gave herself up to the police at New York, as belonging to a gang of women—"The Chain Gang." She stated that the occupation of the gang was to throw vitriol on obnoxious people, occasionally stab a person by way of amusement, and to commit sular outrages. She added that a short time before she killed a child of hers by stinging cotton to its nostrils. "The Chain Gang" held nightly meetings, and were consulted by various persons who desired their agency.

POLICE.

MRS. PERKINS AND HER LODGINGS.—A ladylike looking female, about thirty years of age, who gave the name of Eliza Perkins, but who has on several occasions figured in the names of Williams, Emesly, and others, was charged before Alderman Challis with obtaining money under false pretences.

Mr. John Empson, proprietor of the Black Bull, in Holborn, said the prisoner came on the 9th inst. with three children and a servant, and said she had just come from the country, and had been recommended to witness's house by the waiter at Ridley's Hotel, which was full. She said her luggage would arrive next day. Witness accommodated her and her children, and paid the cabman. Next day she went out as she said, to see her guardian. On her return, she seemed greatly agitated, burst into tears, pretended to faint away, and threw herself into Mr. Empson's arms, saying her guardian was dead. Mr. Empson asked her to pay the bill, £8., but she said she had no money. He then told her she could not stay beyond the following morning in his house. She was apprehended that night on another charge.

Mr. F. Ennis said she came with three children to his house, on the evening of the 6th, in a very similar way, and stayed until the 9th. When apprehended, she was taken before the Clerkenwell magistrate, but discharged for want of evidence.

Mrs. South was victimised to the extent of nearly £10 in a similar manner, with the additional representation made by the prisoner that she was expecting a large sum of money, the produce of the sale of some fading estate. Prisoner was the person who, some few years back, persecuted the late Mr. Protheroe, M.P. for Bristol, with importunities on behalf of her children, of whom she alleged he was the father, since which she had transferred her attentions to another gentleman, who, in consequence of the great annoyance she caused him, had her bound over to keep the peace.

She was remanded for further inquiry, but on a second examination was discharged. The principal portion of the statements upon which she had obtained credit appeared to be true.

A BRITISH HUSBAND.—George Badcock, landlord of the Marion Arms, Hackney, was charged with assault upon his wife.

The wife, a good-looking woman of thirty, was supported into the Court by two officers, but the poor woman was in such an agony of suffering, grief, and debility, that the Magistrate ordered her to be removed and placed in a chair. Almost inarticulate from pain, she said,—I have been married ten years to the prisoner, by whom I have had four children. On the evening of Friday evening he came home with a horse he wished to purchase, and said he should have that horse. I ventured to tell him that he had better not buy the horse, as he had lost by all the others he had bought; and I added that he had much better stop at home and attend to his business, instead of leaving a child only eight years of age to take care of it for hours, or we should certainly be ruined. He buys horses of horse-copers, as they are called, and invariably loses by them. The moment I had spoken the words, he raised his fist and struck me such a terrible blow upon the jaw, that he nearly broke it, and I staggered against a cart standing near, and fell against the wheel. He then kicked me upon the tons so badly that I cannot walk. With great pain and difficulty I contrived to drag myself up into some neighbours' arms, and they carried me away.

Mr. Hammill—Has he ever treated you in this brutal manner before?

—Oh dear, yes, sir, for years, and I know he will kill me; I am sure he will. The night before this he beat me cruelly and dragged me about the ground by my hair. On the Tuesday before he sharpened a curving knife, as he said, for the purpose of murdering me by cutting my throat. After some other evidence, from which it appeared that the woman was possibly injured dangerously, Mr. Hammill adjourned the case, ordering her to be taken home carefully in a cab, but she became so distressingly ill that she was supplied with restoratives, and a long time elapsed before she sufficiently recovered to be removed, the prisoner listening to her cries with apparent indifference.

At the next examination she seemed scarcely any better. She was bent almost double from some internal injury, looked deathly pale, and was again obliged to be seated. She then handed in certificate from her physician, as she described her attendant, which stated her to be still in a very dangerous condition. She was only detained till her deposition could be completed and read over, and then led away. In defence the prisoner pleaded drunkenness, and hoped the magistrate would look over the offence.

Mr. Hammill—No; this is an atrocious assault, and of far too deep a magnitude for me to deal with. You have most likely crippled this poor creature for life, and I shall send you for trial for it.

SINGULAR CASE OF PERSONATION.—At Worship Street Police-court, on Saturday, Mark Nicholas Powles, a young man of gentlemanly exterior, was charged that he did unlawfully and feloniously acknowledge certain recognisances, and became bail in the name of another person, to wit, one Thomas Powles, the said Thomas Powles not being privy or consenting thereto; an offence punishable under the Act of William IV., cap. 66, with transportation for life, or not less than imprisonment for two years. On the 18th of July last, two men, named Nathan Wootman and David Gould, journeymen in the employ of Messrs. Lynes, tailors, of Shore-ditch, were, after several remands, fully committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court, for having forged a certain order for the payment of money, with intent to defraud the firm. Mr. Hammill consented to accept bail; and the prisoner, together with another person named Sax, tendered themselves, and became joint sureties for their appearance to answer the charge.

Thomas Powles said—The prisoner is my son. I reside at Portland Terrace, Victoria Park Road. I did not attend at this court on the 18th of July last, nor authorise any one to become bail for any person. I know nothing of Gould or Wootman. Prisoner never told me he had become bail. The first I knew of this matter was in consequence of a letter I received from a solicitor in Bow Lane, respecting the non-appearance of Wootman. I have another son, named Thomas George Powles, who resides with me; he is only seventeen years of age.

The case being complete, prisoner was in the usual way asked if he had anything to say to the charge, but he declined doing so; and was fully committed for trial.

THE ELLISMORE ROBBERY.—Edward Jackson, oilman, of Leonard Street, Shoreditch, was again placed at the bar, before Mr. D'Eyneourt, charged with feloniously receiving a box, containing £15,000 worth of jewels and other property, belonging to the Countess of Ellismore, and stolen from the roof of a carriage on the 22nd of January, 1856. His wife, Ann Jackson, in whose actual possession rich lace belonging to her Ladyship were found, surrendered on bail. They were defended by Mr. Lewis, jun.

Mr. Humphreys attended to conduct the prosecution, hitherto conducted by the police officers; but he had been so recently instructed that he requested another remand. He stated that next week he should be enabled to produce one of the persons by whom the robbery had been committed, and he hoped then to bring the case to a conclusion before the Magistrate.

Mrs. Mary Ann Ward, a dressmaker, identified a frock, &c., which she had made twelve months since for the female prisoner, and already identified as a portion of Lady Ellismore's property.

Mr. Edward Collingridge, a refiner, living in Wilderness Row, Goswell Street, stated that he knew the male prisoner from having seen him on two or three occasions. In October, 1856, the prisoner came to him with a diamond, a single stone, not set, which he purchased of him for £16. In the course of the same month he purchased a gold watch, with duplex movement, of the prisoner for £12, and he now had the watch at home, but he sold the diamond again shortly afterwards. About three months back the prisoner came again, and showed him another diamond. He offered

to give £18 for that, as diamonds had "got up" considerably in value. The prisoner, however, wanted more money, which he refused to give, and therefore he did not buy that one.

The male prisoner was again remanded, his wife being admitted to the same bail as before.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

CONSIDERING the extent of the panic in commercial circles, there has been comparative firmness in the market for the Funded Debt, in which some large transactions for money have taken place, principally on account of the public, who are now withdrawing freely from the joint stock banks, and prices generally have been well supported. The Unfunded Debt has likewise ruled firmer, and steady improvement has taken place in prices. Although the advices from the United States are not so favourable a character as could be desired, yet there are signs of a reaction in monetary affairs now. In the first place, the relaxation of the Bank Charter Act—which has enabled the Bank Directors to give increased accommodation to our merchants, the last returns showing that £2,000,000 in notes have been added to the circulation, or is partly in the "till"—has been productive of increased confidence out of doors, in the next, we have to report a portion of the gold lately shipped to New York, then again, we find that the exports of gold have been sold to the Bank, and that the exports of silver to California and China, on account of merchants, have almost wholly ceased. The last market for India took out about £30,000, but fully £200,000 was in silver on account of the East India Company. These are redeeming circumstances at this moment, and a great fall off in the demand for silver on Eastern account will lead to a decline in the shipments of gold to the Continent to purchase silver, consequently the latter metal, as it arrives from Mexico, will be used, as heretofore, in keeping the Continental exchanges in check. Still, our impression is that money will continue at a high range of value for some time, owing to the great difficulties which surround the commercial body, arising from the want of remittances from the United States. Until those difficulties are removed, the stability of many houses will continue to be called in question. In the meantime, the position of the merchants throughout the Continent is of extreme peril. They are suffering from the same causes, viz., a high range in money, and the want of their usual remittances. Numerous failures are the result, and those failures will, we apprehend, re-act upon our markets.

No further change has taken place in the value of money, but the joint stock banks and discount establishments have made advances with more usual caution. The consequences is, that the applications for accommodation to the Bank of England have been unusually numerous. The position of some of the Irish and Scotch banks upon which a severe run has taken place—has considerably hampered the Bank Directors in offering new means of assistance, and it is stated that nearly £2,000,000 in gold has been sent to them during the last three weeks to support their credit. This enormous drain has reduced the stock of bullion in the Bank coffers to £6,000,000, but a large portion of the amount lent will shortly be returned.

The silver market is much less active, and sales of Mexican dollars have been effected at a decline of £8. 6d. per ounce. The value of the gold now on passage from Australia is nearly one million sterling, nearly the whole of which, it is assumed, will be sold to the Bank of England.

The 3 per cent Consols have been done at 80/- to 90/- for money, and 90/- to 95/- for the account. The Reduced have realised 88/- to 89/-, the new 3 per cents, 88/- to 90/- Long Annuites, 1860, 1.13 18/- India bonds, 35/- dis. Exchequer bills, 8/- to 10/- dis. Bank stock has marked 214 and 212, and India stock, 22.

The dealings in the foreign houses have been very moderate. Brazilian 5 per cents have sold at 99; ditto, 44 per cents, 96-97; Chilean 6 per cents, 101; Mexican 3 per cents, 102; Portuguese 3 per cents, 42; Russian 5 per cents, 103; Spanish 3 per cents, 41; Spanish new defers, d. 2 to 25; ditto, committee's certificates, 5/- to 6/- Turkis, 16 per cents, 88, and Turkish 4 per cents, 97.

At New York the rates of exchange continue to fluctuate, and on the Continent generally they are holding.

Nearly all railway shares, owing to numerous forced sales having been made, have ruled very inactive, and the quotations almost generally have declined from 1 to 1 per cent compared with last week.

In some quarters apprehensions are entertained that the traffic will decline, owing to the check to trade, and that great difficulty will be experienced by some of the companies in obtaining a removal of debentures. The following are the prices for the week:—Bristol and Exeter, 83; Caledonian, 73; East Anglian, 171; Eastern Counties, 50; East Lancashire, 87; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 120; Great Northern, a stock, 80; ditto, B. stock, 121; Great Western, 121; Midland, and Yorkshire, 88; ditto, F. 126 shares, 54; London and Blackwall, 84; London and Southwark, 61; London and North-Western, 93; London and South-Western, 61; Manchester, 52; Midland, and Lancashire, 34; Midland, 94; ditto, Birmingham, and Derby, 55; North Eastern, 47; North Eastern, 80; York, 201, for money, ditto, Leeds, 47; ditto, York, 78; Scottish Central, 103; Scottish North Eastern, Aberdeen stock, 22; ditto, Midland stock, 89; South Eastern, 60; for money; Vale of Neath, 20; Waterford and Kilkenny, 18; Midland, Bradford, preference stock, 80; Bombay, Baroda, and Central India, 9; ditto, additional capital, A. & E. East Indian, 103; Grand Trunk of Canada, 34; ditto, New Granada, 17; Great Indian Peninsula, 201; ditto, 24; Great Western of Canada, 17; ditto, bonds payable 1873, with option, 1004; Madras, third extension, 5; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 54; Dutch Rhineish, 45; Great Luxemburg, 54; Lombard-Venetian, 81; Recife and San Francisco, 7; Western and Northern, 24.

Joint stock bank shares have ruled heavy. Agric and United Service have marked 58; Australia, 77; Bank of Egypt, 131; City, 54; London and County, 27; London Joint Stock, 26; London and Westminster, 41; Oriental, 34; Ottoman, 161; Union of Australia, 48; and Union of London, 187.

Joint stock banks have ruled heavy. Agric and United Service have ruled heavy. Agric and United Service have been transacted. London Docks have been sold at 91; St. Katherine, 87; Australian Agricultural, 2; Australian Royal Mail, 1; Canada Company's Bonds, 115; ditto, Government 6 new Cents, 109; New South Wales Government 5 per cent Debenture, 24; Crystal Palace, 11; Electric Telegraph, 98; English and Australian Copper Smelting Company, 11; London Discount, 23; National Discount Company, 20; North British Australian, 8; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 72; Van Diemen's Land, 9.

Mining Shares continue dull. Norbridge Consols Mining Company have sold at 24; Wheal Mary Ann, at 50; and Cobre Copper at 39.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Very limited supplies of English wheat have been received up to our market this week, coastwise or by land-carriage, and most kinds have ruled somewhat firmer, at least 2 per cent's decline in value. Foreign wheat, the imports of which have not been extensive, has moved off slowly, on former terms. Fine malting barley has changed hands at full prices; but other kinds have sold at irregular quotations. Malt has continued to sell, at the late decline in value. There has been a slight improvement in the oat-trade, and the samples have realised 6d. per quarter more money. In beans, peas, and flour, only a limited business has been transacted. Prices, however, have ruled about stationary.

ENGLISH CURRENCY.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, Red, 40s. to 50s.; ditto, White, 43s. to 58s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, Red, 39s. to 50s.; Rye, 32s. to 36s.; Grinding Barley, 25s. to 28s.; Distilling ditto, 29s. to 34s.; Malting, 36s. to 41s.; Peat Malt, 5s. to 68s.; Brown ditto, 52s. to 58s.; Feats, 20s. to 25s.; Potato, ditto, 25s. to 30s.; Tick Beans, 35s. to 39s.; Maple Peas, 40s. to 43s.; Gray ditto, 38s. to 40s.; White, 37s. to 41s.; per quarter, Town-made Flour, 43s. to 47s.; Country Marks, 38s. to 39s.; Household, 40s. to 42s.; per quarter, 20d.; veal, 3s. 10d. to 5s.; pork, 4s. to 5s. 2d. per lb.; to sink the oaf.

CARRIERS.—There has been a full and large supply of heads on offer this week, and all kinds have moved off heavily, at a decline in value of from 2d. to 4d. per lb. Sheep have met a dull inquiry at 2d. per lb. less money, and calves have fallen 4d. per lb. Pigs have ruled about stationary. Beef, from 3s. to 8d.; mutton, 2s. to 5s.; veal, 3s. 10d. to 5s.; pork, 4s. to 5s. 2d. per lb.; to sink the oaf.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.—Each kind of meat has moved off slowly, as follows.—Beef, from 2s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. to 6s.; veal, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.; pork, 3s. 6d. to 5s. 4d. per lb.; to sink the oaf.

NEWGATE.—The market continues on a very moderate scale, and inferior tea is slow to purchase. The shipments from China are limited compared with last week. Canton, 11d. to 12s.; Ning Yung and Oolong, is 3d. to 2s.; Souchong, 13s. to 24s.; Flower Peckow, 28s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.; Scented Camellia, 3s. to 1s. 10d.; Orange Peckow, 1s. 2d. to 3s.; Twankow, 8d. to 1s. 3d.; Hyson Skin, 8d. to 1s. 2d.; Hyson, 1s. 2d. to 3s. 10d.; Young Hyson, 10d. to 2s. 2d.; Imperial, 1s. to 2s. 4d.; Gunpowder, 1s. to 3s. 6d.; Assam, 4d. to 6s. per lb.

SUGAR.—Since our last report, all kinds of sugar have met a dull inquiry, and have had a downward tendency. West India sugar has been received up to our market this week, coastwise or by land-carriage, and all kinds have ruled off heavily, at a reduction of 10s. to 12s. per cwt.

RICE.—Great heaviness prevails in the demand, and prices are almost nominal. The supply for export has almost wholly ceased. The stock is 50,000 cwt., against 49,000 tons in 1856.

PROVISIONS.—We have to record a very indefinite demand for butter, and inferior kinds are lower to price. The butter market is heavy, on lower terms. Other provisions are on dull inquiry.

INDIGO.—So few sales have taken place that prices are almost nominal.

SILK.—We have no sales to report in this article.

SALT-PETRE.—Our market is heavy, and the quotations are next to nominal. The stock is 6,700 tons, against 2,900 tons in 1856.

NITRATE OF SODA.—Present quotations are 20s. to 26s. per cwt.

COTTON.—The rates remain nominal, with a heavy demand.

HEMP AND FLAX.—All kinds of hemp are very dull, and ordinary flax qualities may be purchased at 25s. to 30s. per ton. In flax, nothing doing.

WOOL.—Although large quantities of wool continue to be withdrawn, the sales are progressing heavily, at 2d. to 3d. per lb. less money.

SPRITS.—Rum moves off slowly, on lower terms. Proof Lead-washes, 2s. 2d. and East India, 2s. per gallon. In brandy very little is doing, on former terms. Malt spirit rules heavy.

METALS.—The market generally is heavy, and prices continue to give way. Scotch pig iron has sold at 55s. per ton, and Straits tin, at 102s. and 105s.

HOPS.—New hops are held at full prices, but inferior qualities are very dull. New Mid and East Kent pockets, 3s. to 4s. We. of Kent, ditto, 2s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; Sussex, 2s. 12d. to 4s. 6d. per cwt.

POTATOES.—The supplies are only moderate, and the demand is inactive, at 2s. 1d. to 2s. per ton.

OILS.—Linseed oil is very dull, at 28s. per cwt., on the spot. Sperm may be purchased at 67s.; palm, 4s. 1d.; olive, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; rapese, 4s.; coco nut, 6s. to 4s. 6d.; linseed, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; turpentine continues to give way in price. American spermaceti, 3s. English, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.; rough, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.

TURPENTINE.—There is a moderate business doing in this market, and the price is quoted at 2s. 1d. per cwt. Linseed oil, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. in 1856.

ASPHALTUM.—This is a quidate substance, and is quoted at 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. in 1856.

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